

*A vision towards  
table-top  
hadron (not only) beams*

Luigi Palumbo

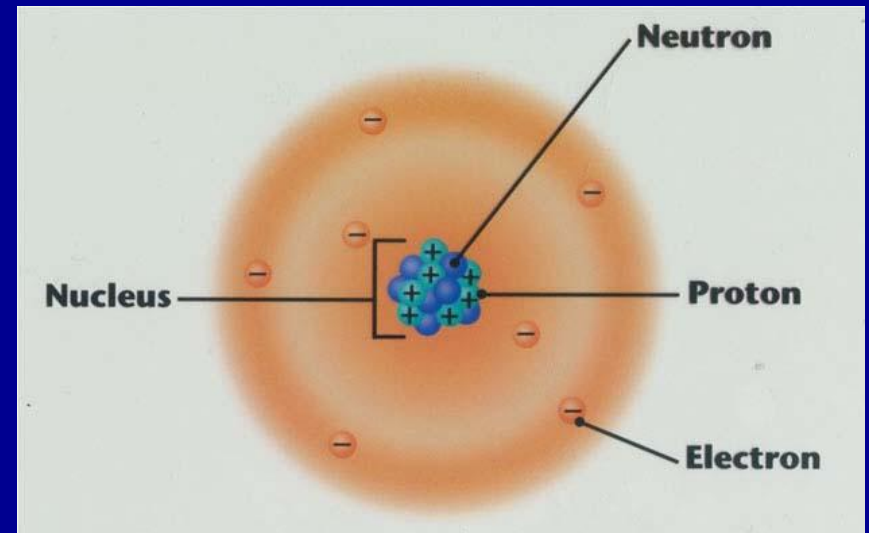
University of Roma „Sapienza“  
& INFN

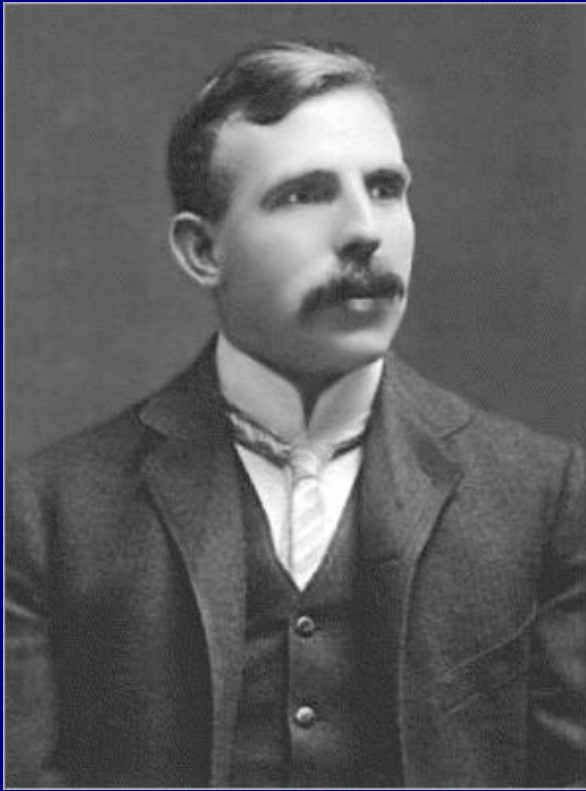
[luigi.palumbo@uniroma1.it](mailto:luigi.palumbo@uniroma1.it)

*... about one hundred years ago ...*

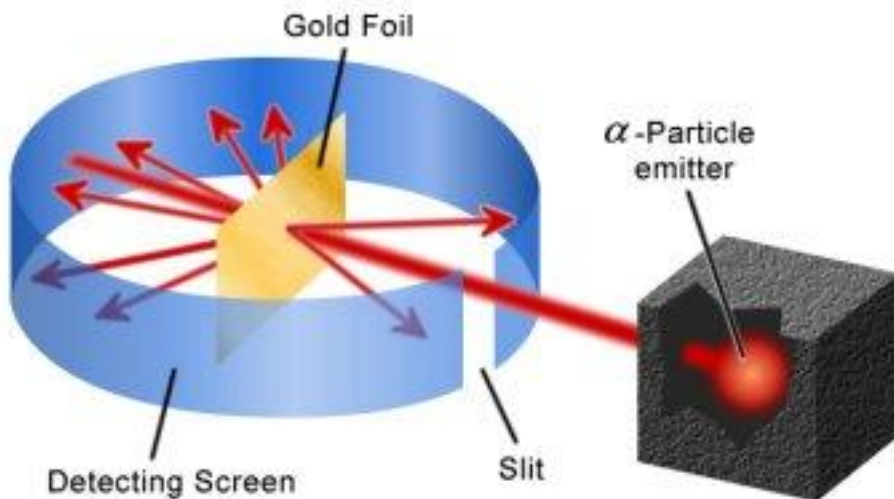
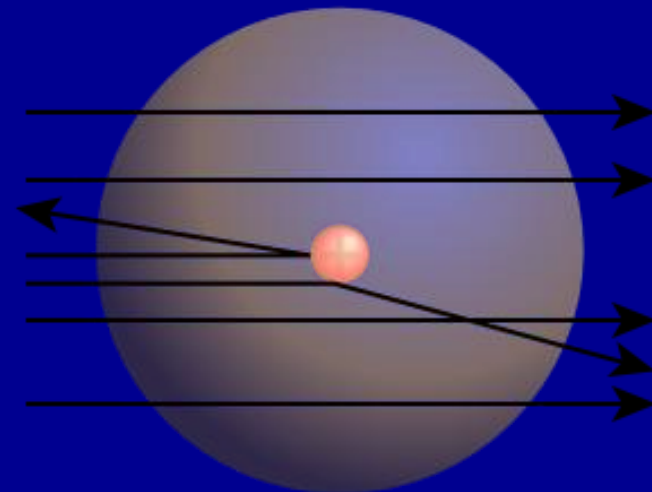
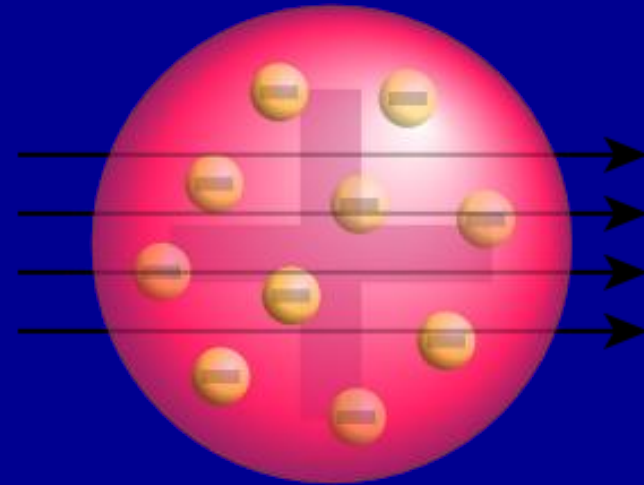
# *History and properties of protons*

- Protons discovered by Ernest Rutherford in 1918.
- Neutron by Chadwick in 1932
- Electrons by Thomson in 1897
- Proton: Elementary particle as part of the nucleus
- 1836 time mass of electron but positively charged





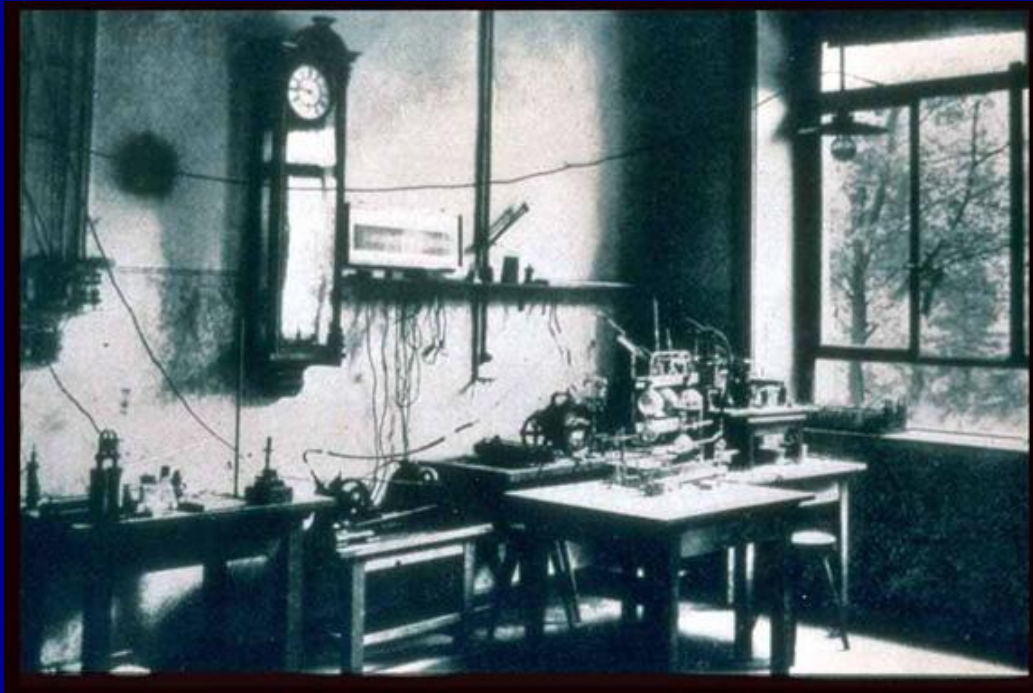
## Discovery of proton 1896



# Rutherford Experiment: Nuclear Atom

# Discovery of X-Rays

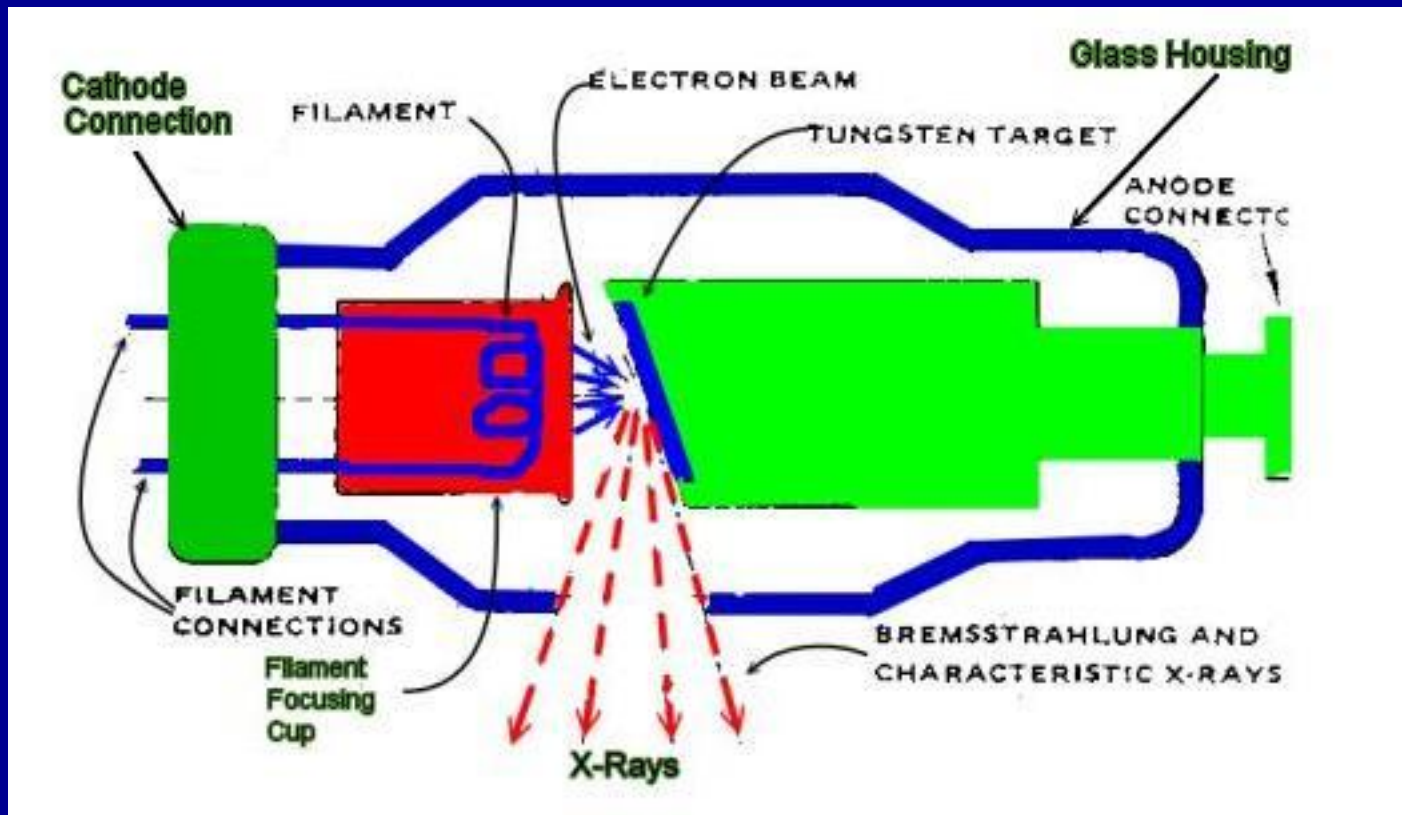
November 1895, Würzburg



Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen

Roentgen's Würzburg Laboratory

# X-ray tubes









Discovered by Heinrich Hertz in 1897 - Explained by Albert Einstein in 1905

## Photoelectric Effect

*U.V.A. PROPERTIES*



*M. Mongkolsuk*

**PHOTOELECTRIC EFFECT**

*11/04/2004*

*electrons can generate photons*

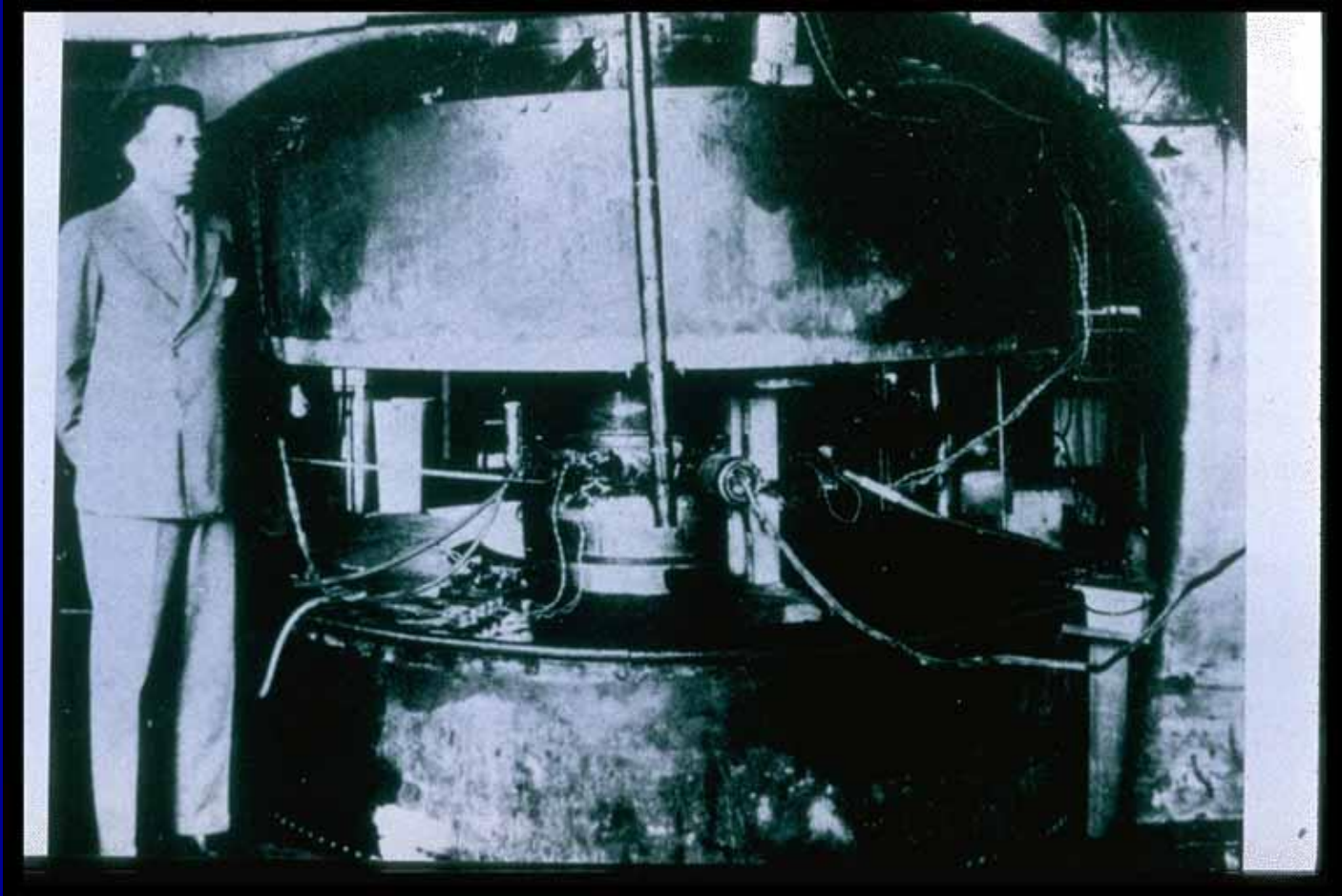
*and*

*photons can generate electrons*

- *ELECTRON SOURCES*
- *PHOTON SOURCES*
- *PROTON SOURCES*

*RELENTLESS EFFORT IN THE DEVELOPMENT  
OF ACCELERATOR TECHNOLOGY FOR*

- *FUNDAMENTAL SCIENCES*
- *MEDICINE*
- *INDUSTRY*



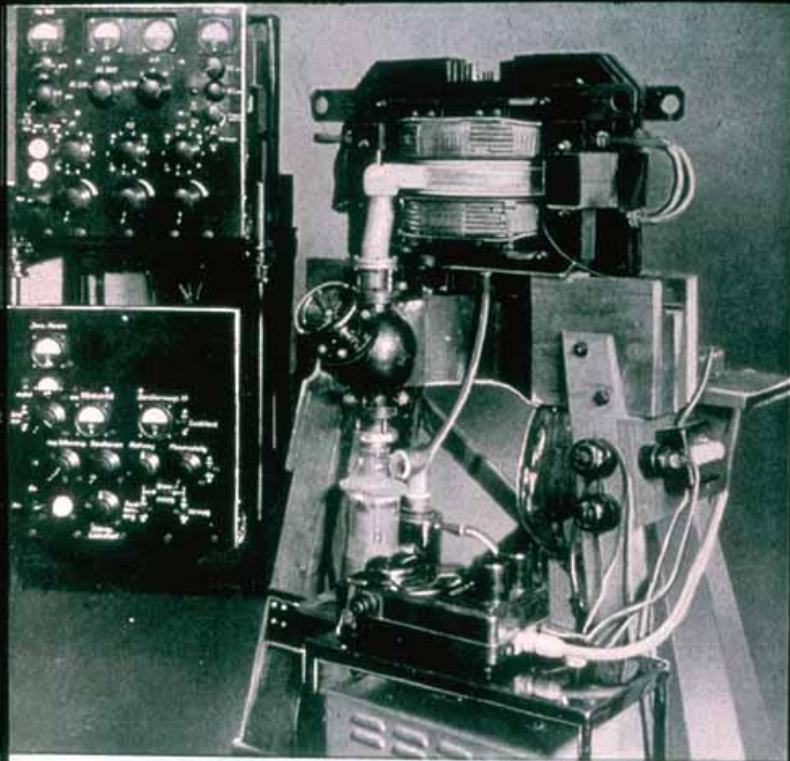
1931 Ernest Lawrence, at the University of California first cyclotron capable of producing deuterons, protons, and alpha particles.



1940 - Donald Kerst, betatron, at the University of Illinois, accelerate electrons, first at 2.3 MeV and later to 300 MeV. Commercial vendors helped promote clinical applications of the new technology.

1942. First betatron in clinical use.

Although Kerst first developed the betatron in the U.S., it saw its first clinical application by Gund, using this machine in Germany during the war.

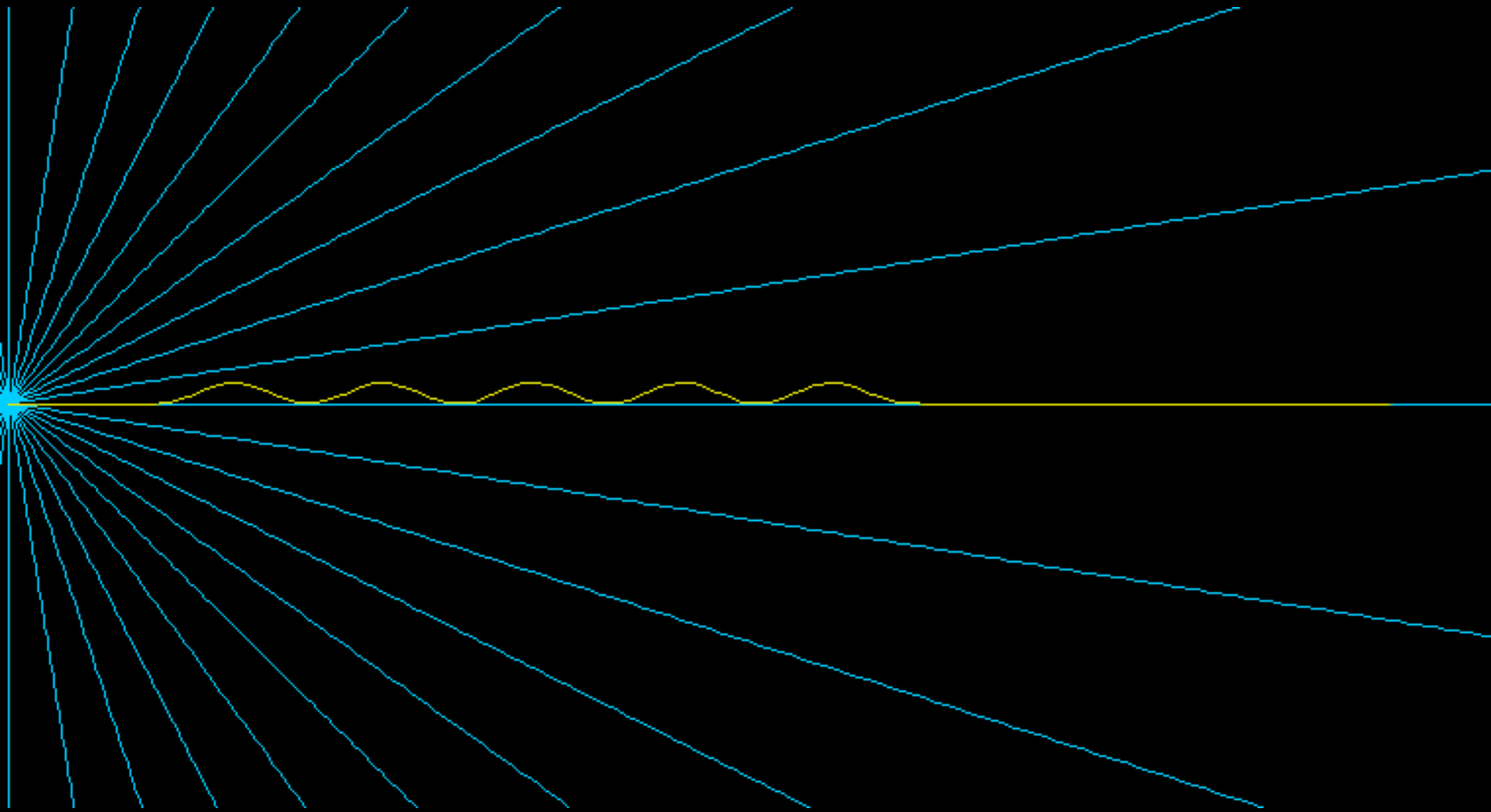


World's first betatron, 1942, 6 mV.  
Inventor: Konrad Gund - Erlangen, Germany



# *SYNCHROTRON RADIATION SOURCES*

# SYNCHROTRON RADIATION



# SYNCHROTRON LIGHT CENTERS IN THE WORLD

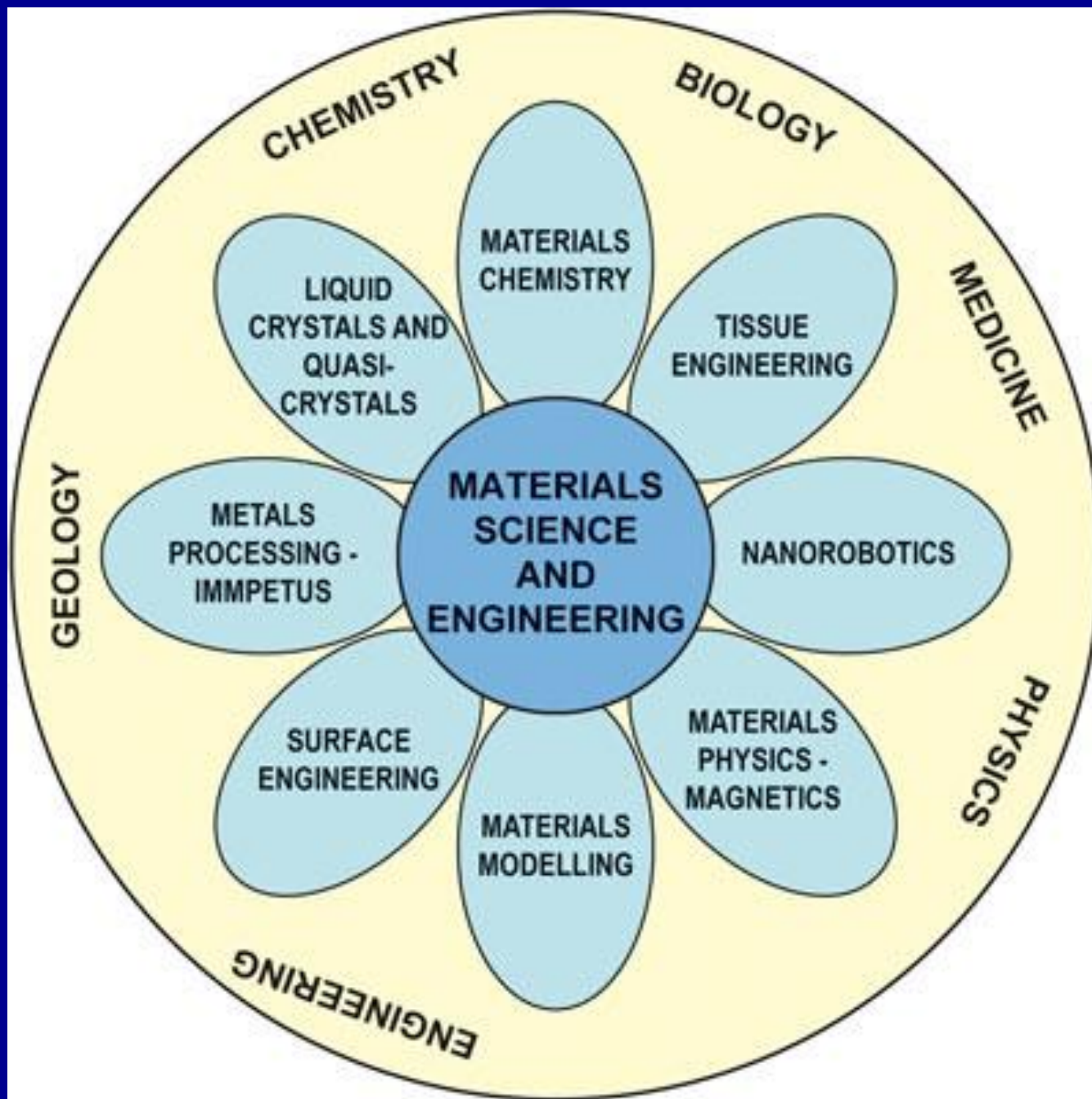


# EUROPEAN SYNCHROTRON LIGHT SOURCE



*Grenoble FR*



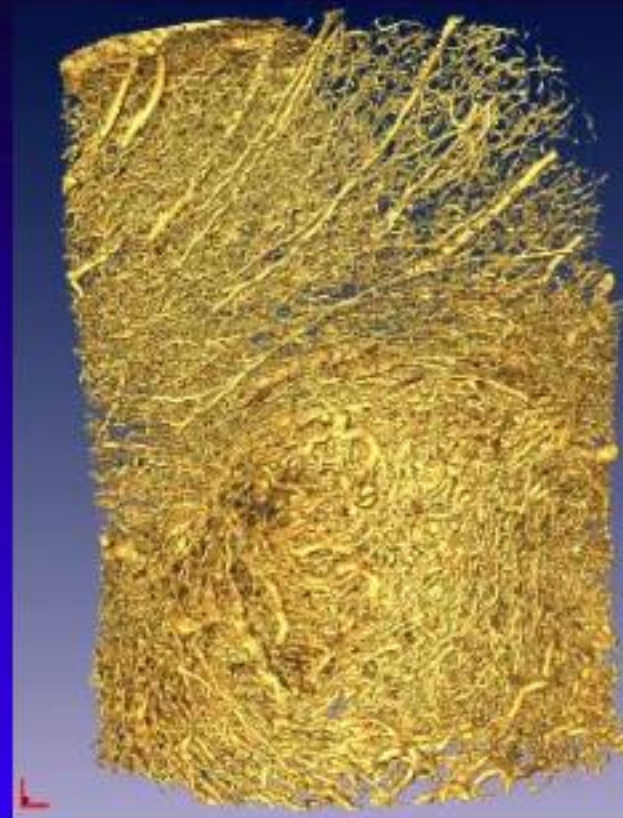


**20.5 keV pixel 1.4 micron**

bar= 0.1 mm



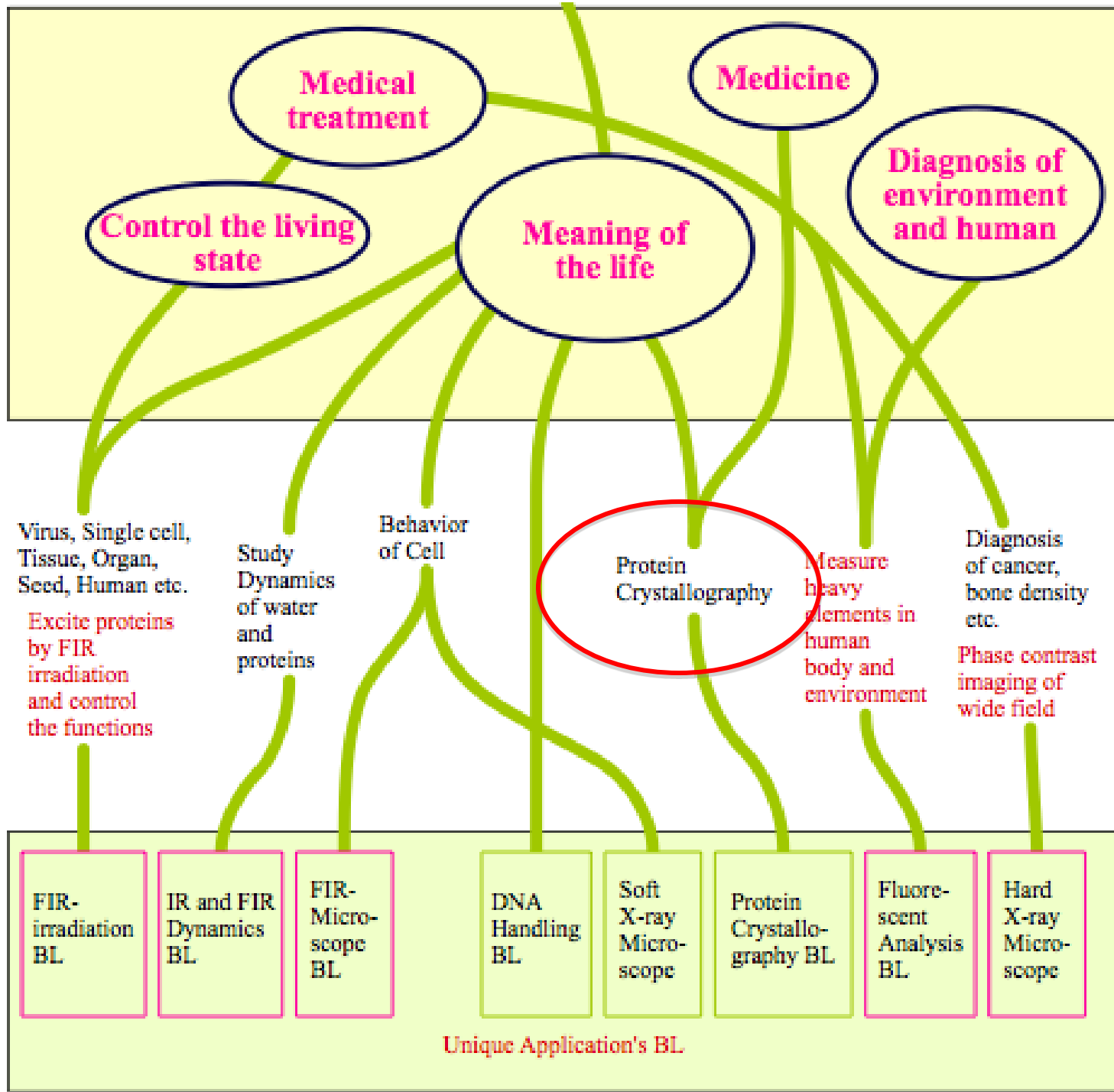
**Monkey cortical vascular network**



**Implanted tumor cortical vascular network in rat cortex**

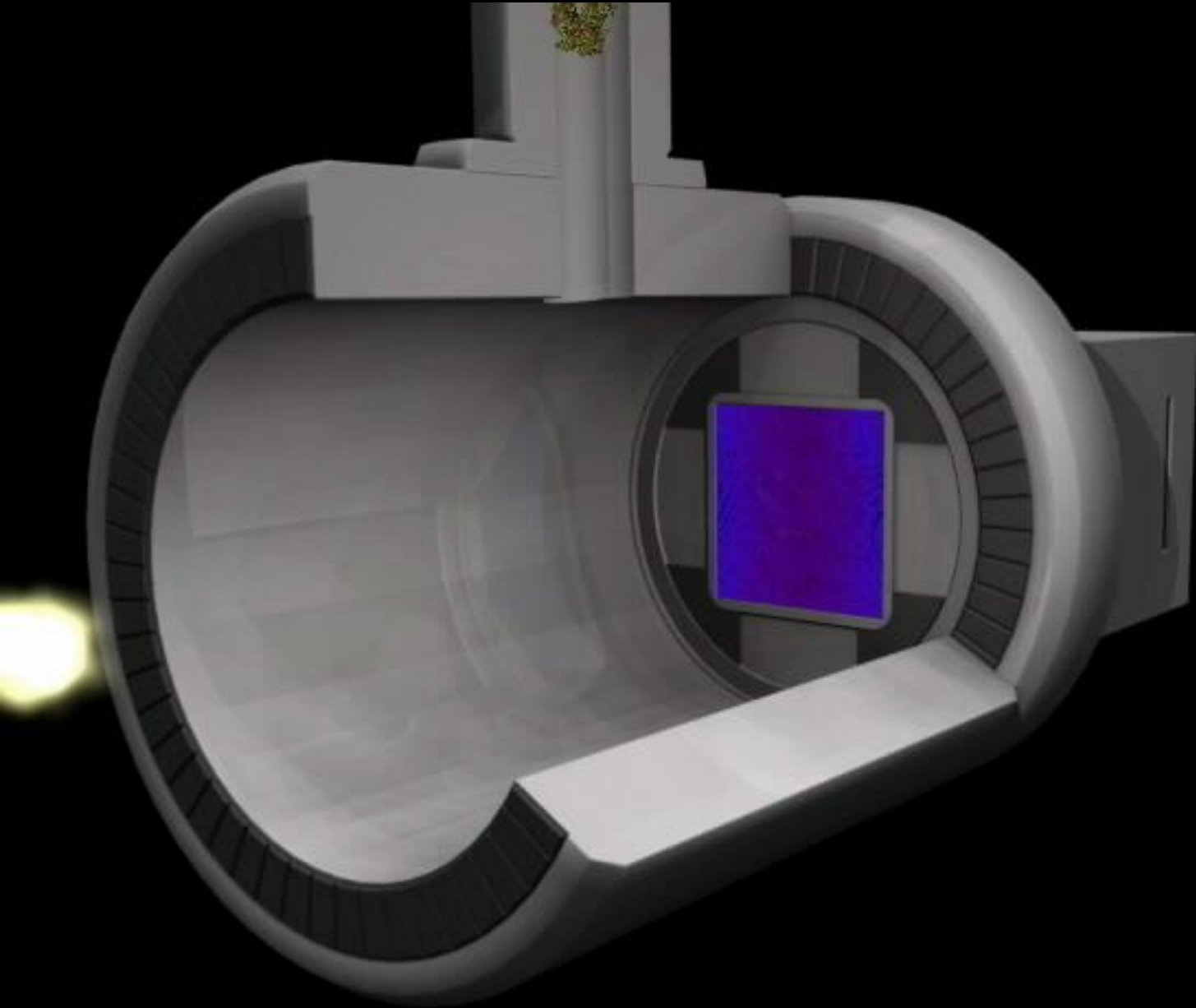
**L. Risser et al. J. Cereb. Blood flow and Metabolism, 2006**

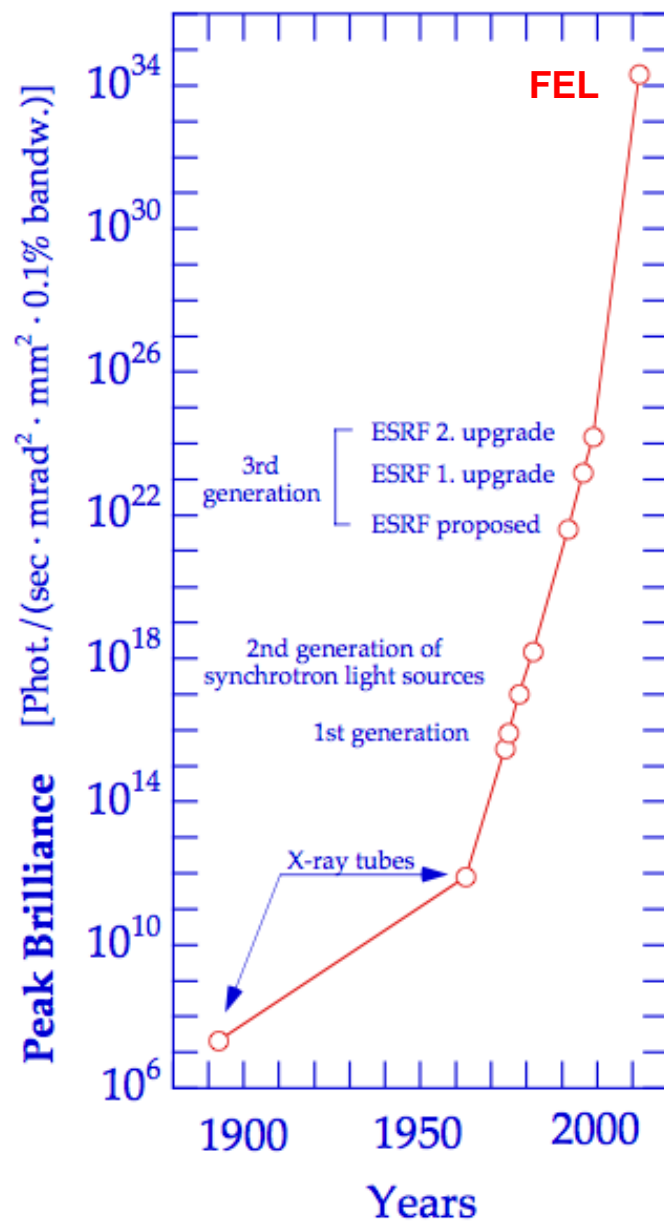
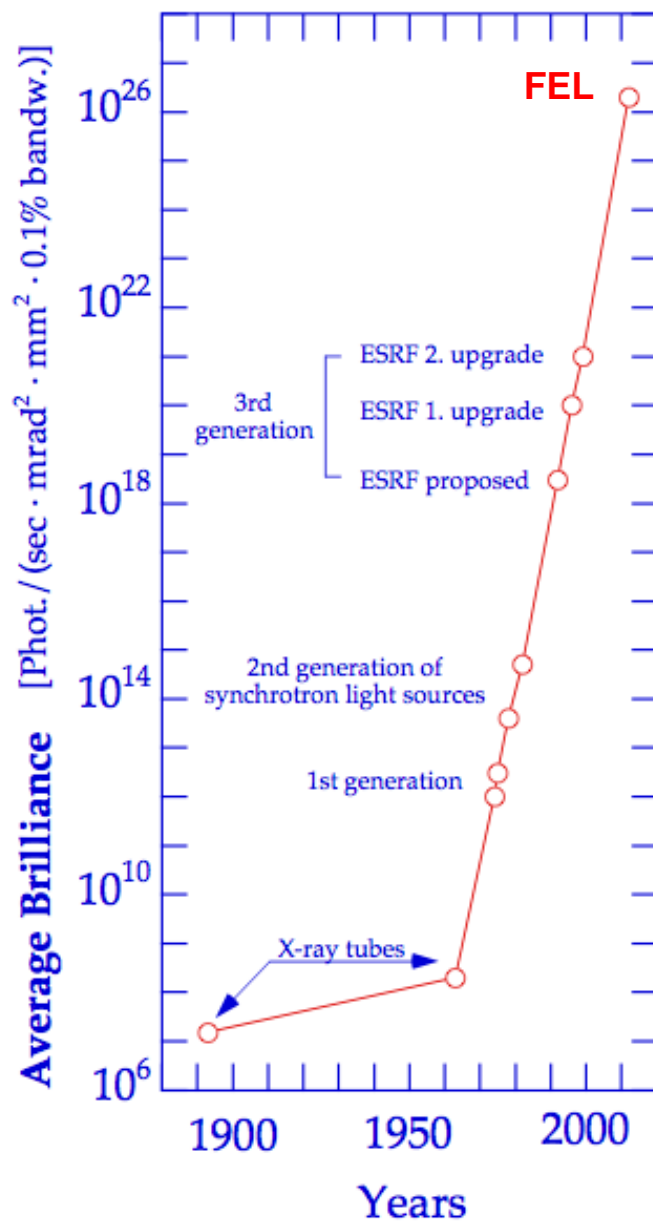
# L I F E S C I E N C E













LCLS

**LARGE INFRASTRUCTURES  
COSTS : 500 – 1000 MEuro**

XFEL

**What technology for the future ?**

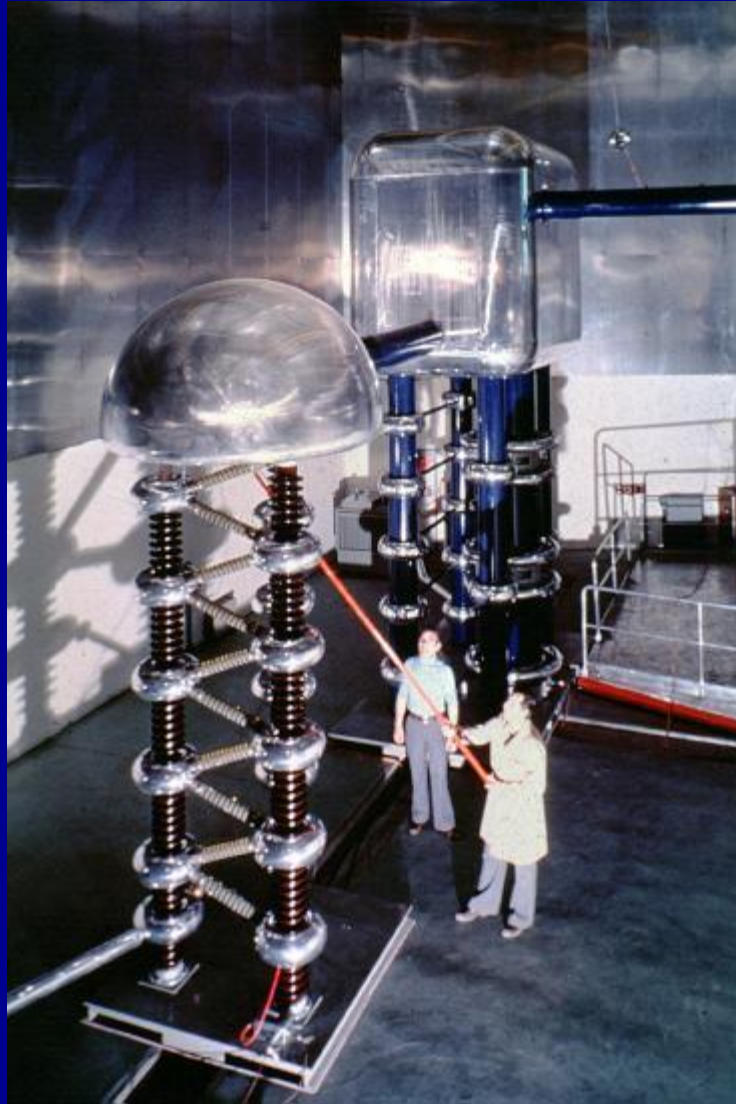
SCSS

X-ray Free Electron Laser(image)

Spring-8

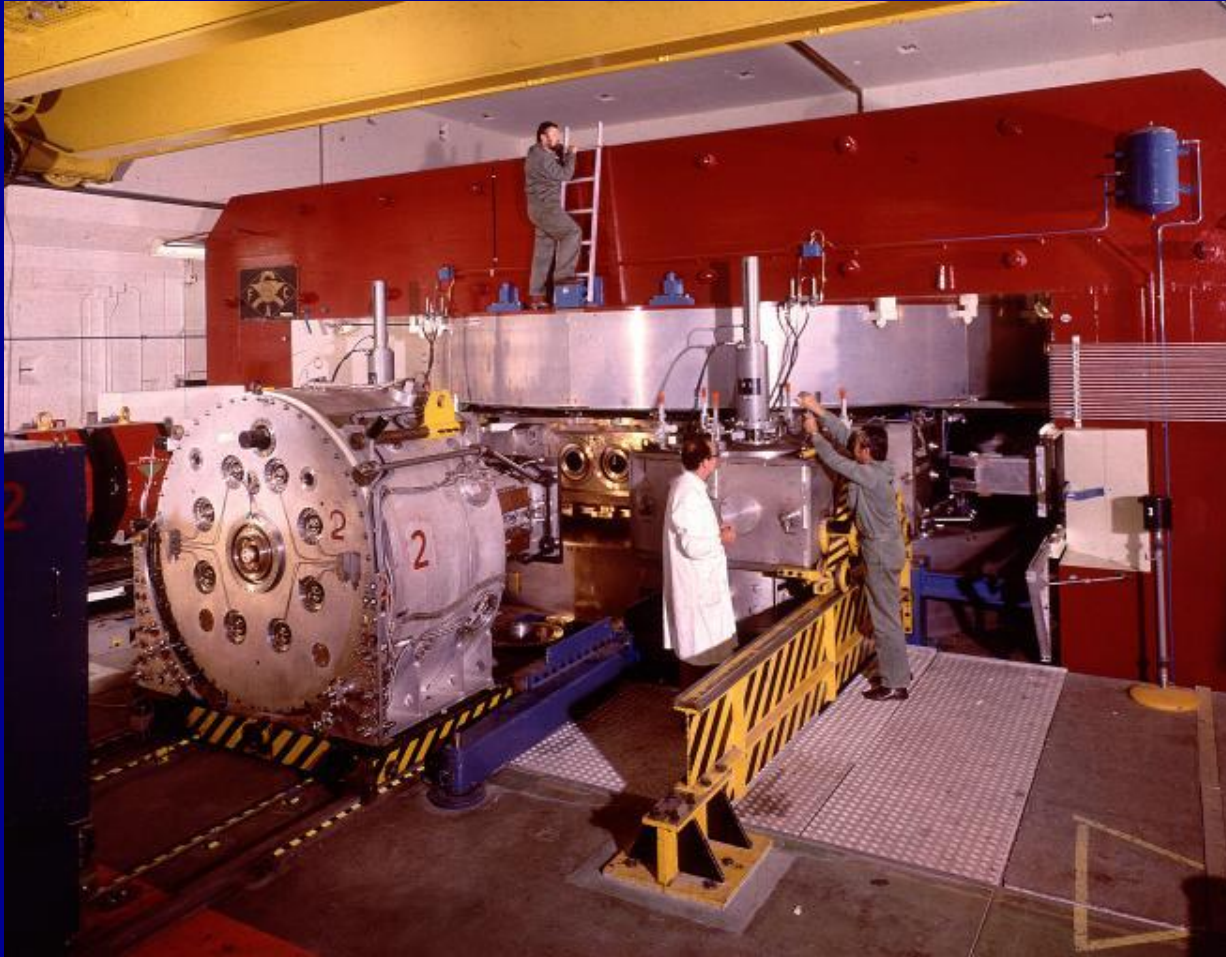
*ACCELERATORS FOR  
HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS*





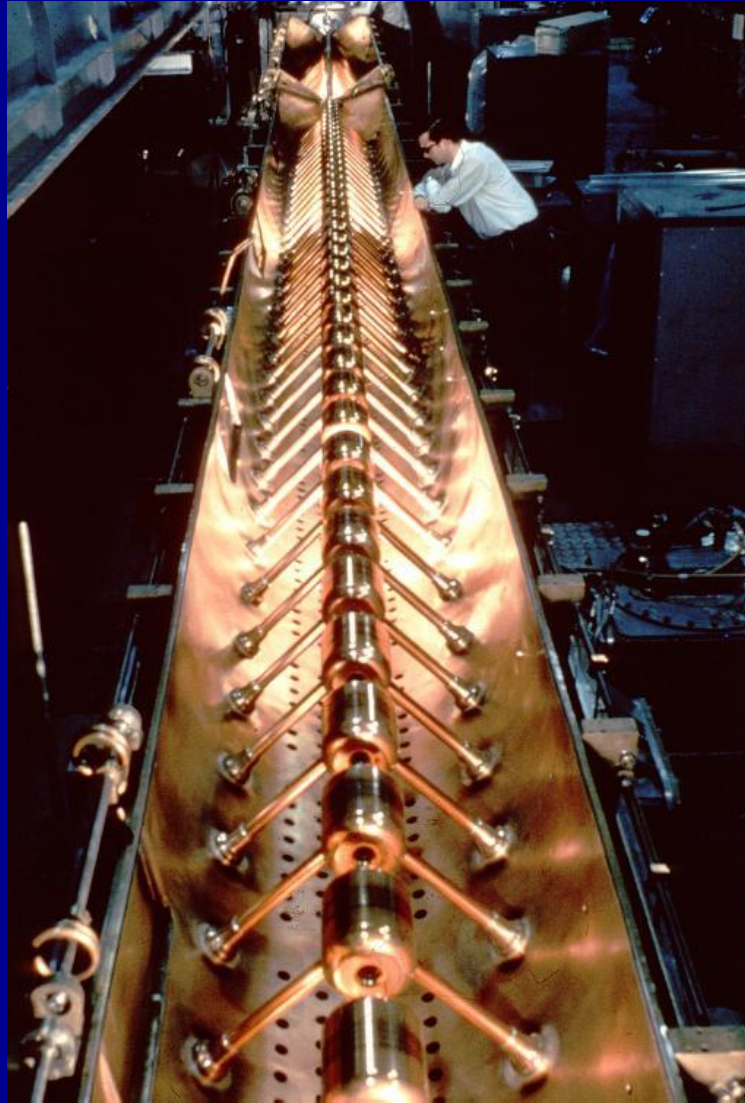
Cockcroft-Walton Column. This 800 kV generator is used for the pre-acceleration of protons before injection into the linear accelerator (LINAC)

*1957 - The 600 MeV SC (Synchro-Cyclotron), the CERN's first accelerator. It was closed in 1990.*

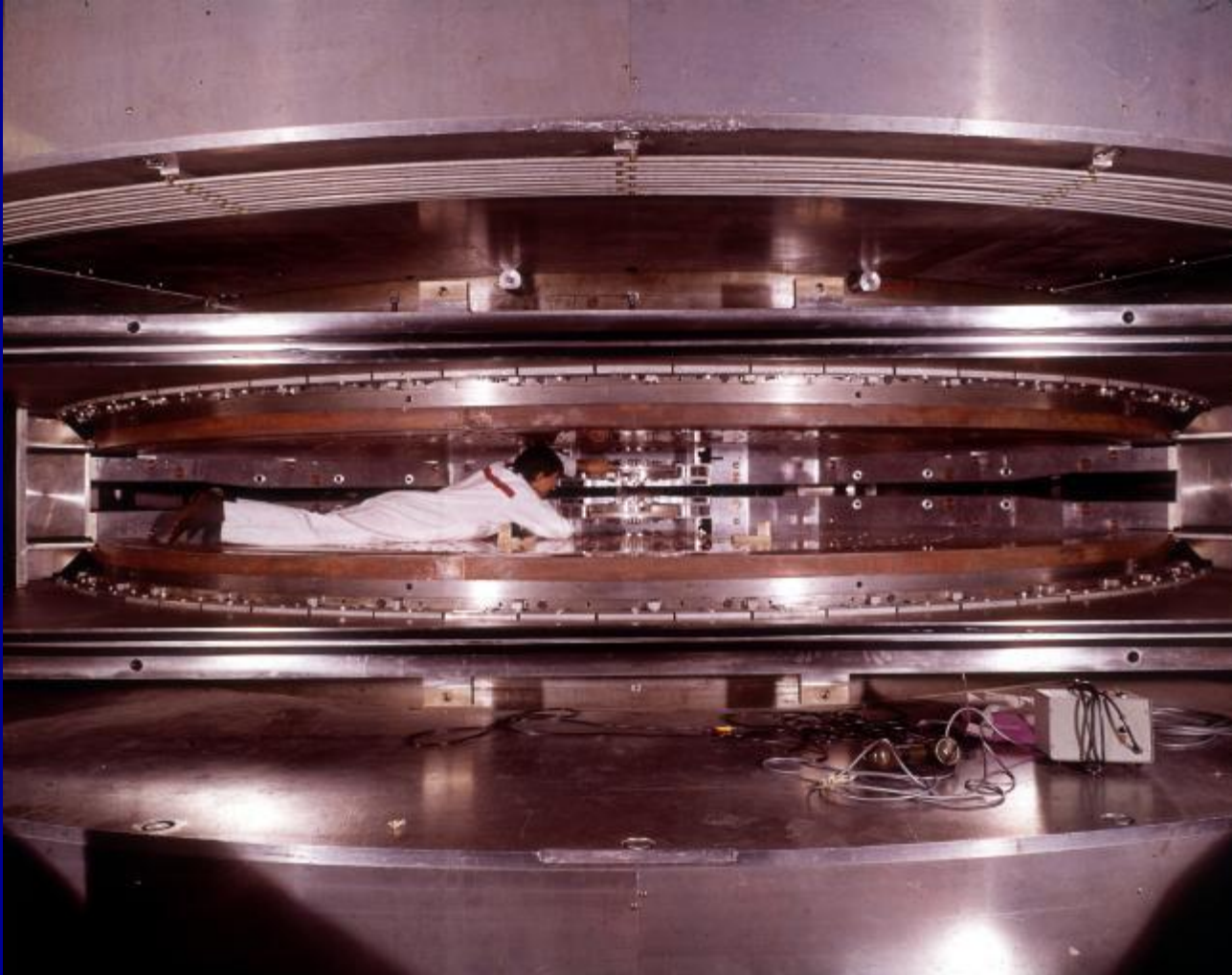




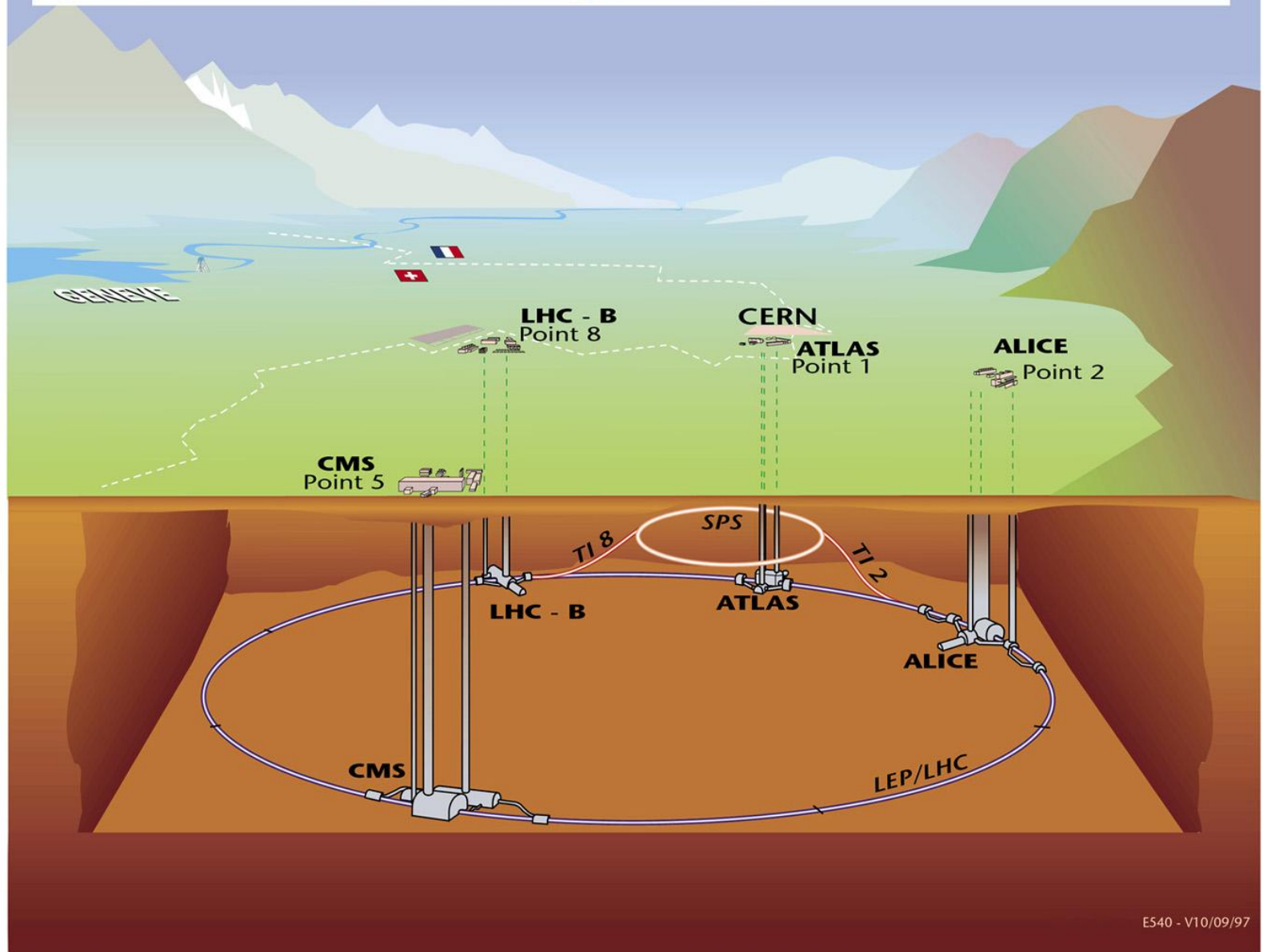
*LINAC: Linear proton accelerator with an energy of 50 MeV*



*1974 - 600 MeV Synchro-Cyclotron for proton beams*



# Overall view of the LHC experiments.

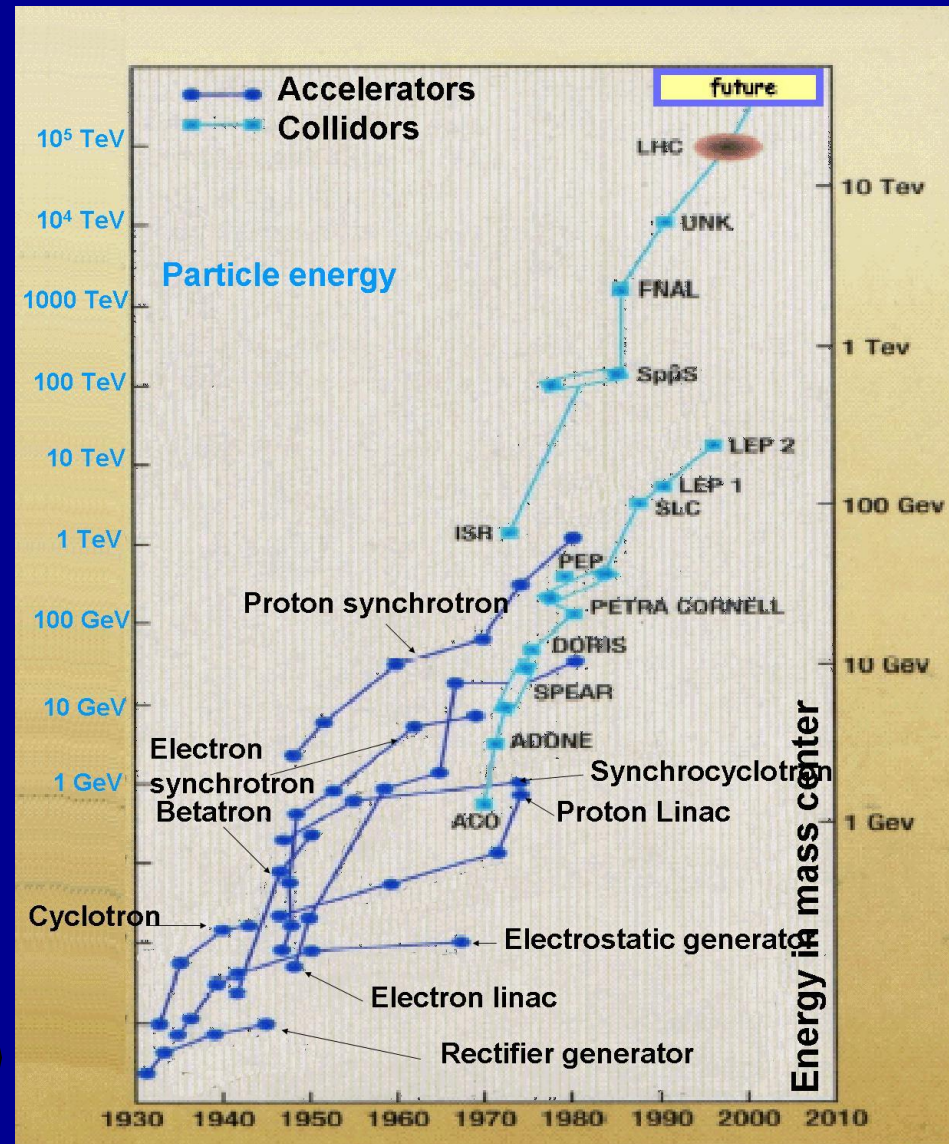




# Particle accelerator evolution

About every 7 years  
a new accelerator  
technology is invented  
to increase particle  
energies

(continuous lines indicate  
same accelerator technology)



# Proton accelerator are very large and expensive machines

- Large Hadron Collider (LHC), CERN 27 km circumference (LHC machine costs 3 billion Euro)



Ring:  
27 km

What technology for the future ?

- SNS facility in the USA
- European Spallation Infrastructure (estimated 1 billion Euro)



# Classical accelerator limitations

$E\text{-field}_{\max} \approx \text{few } 10 \text{ MeV /meter (Breakdown)}$

$R > R_{\min}$  Synchrotron radiation

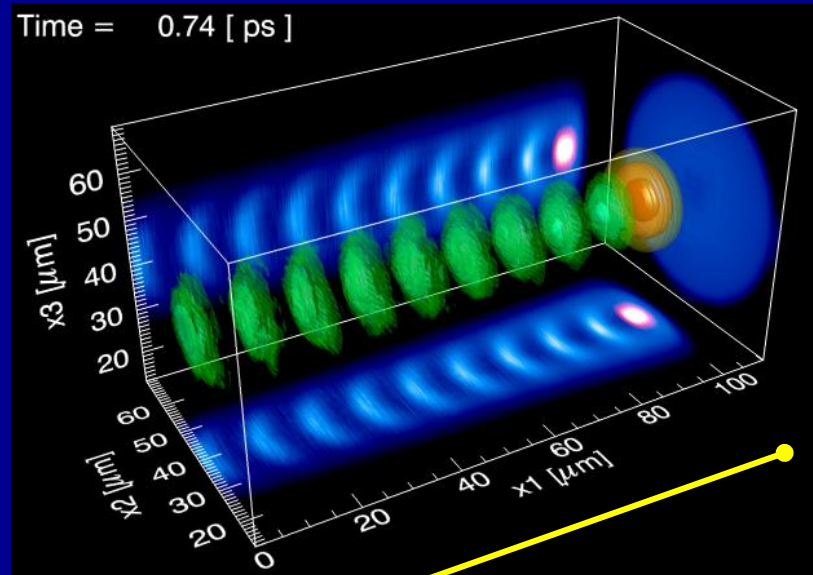


1 m

RF cavity

*Courtesy of W. Mori & L. da Silva*

Time = 0.74 [ ps ]



100 μm

Plasma cavity



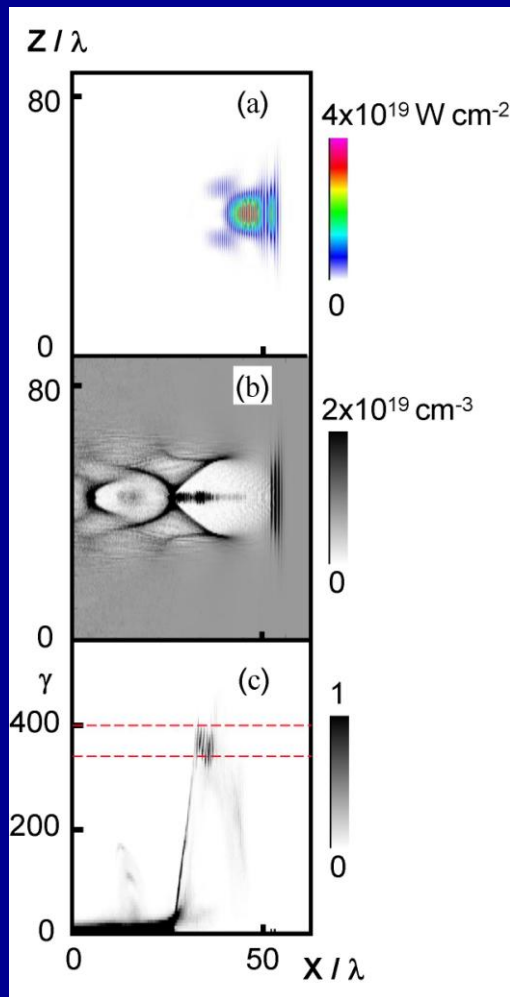
# New electron acceleration mechanism



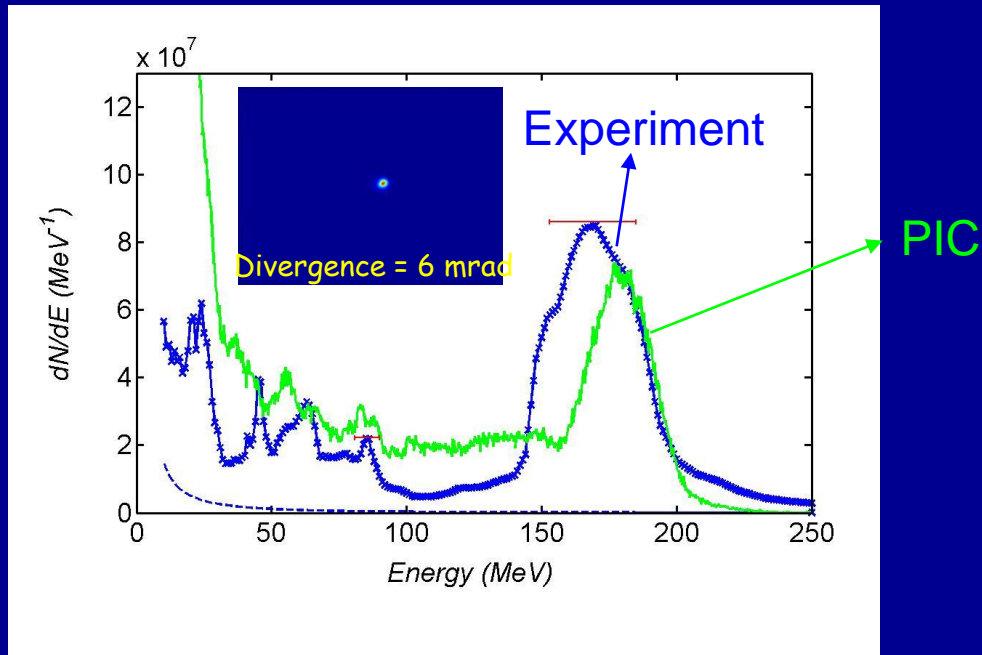
J. Faure et al., C. Geddes et al., S. Mangles et al. ,  
in Nature 30 septembre 2004



# Energy distribution improvements: The Bubble regime



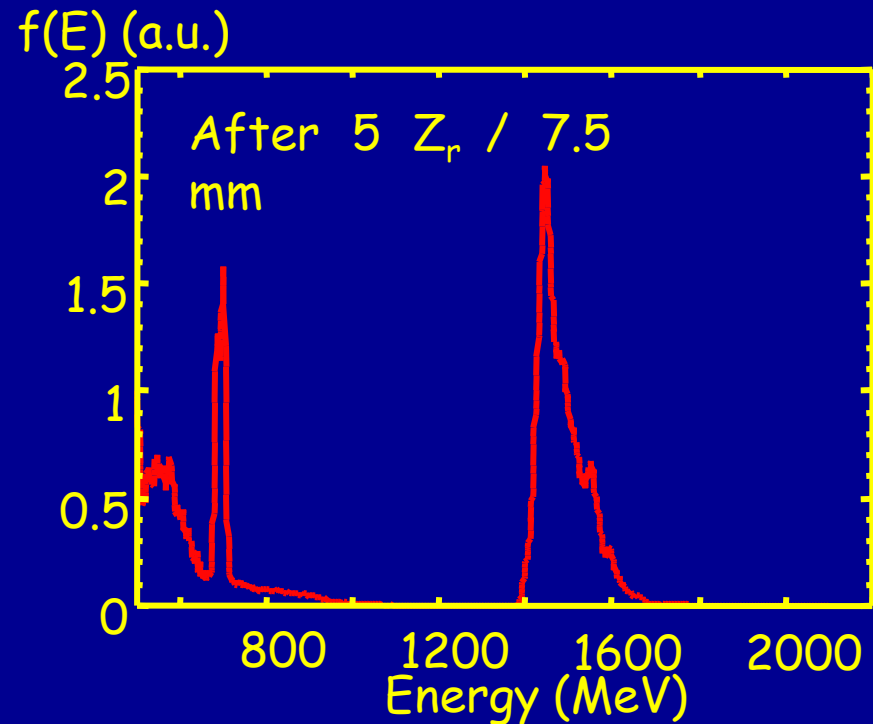
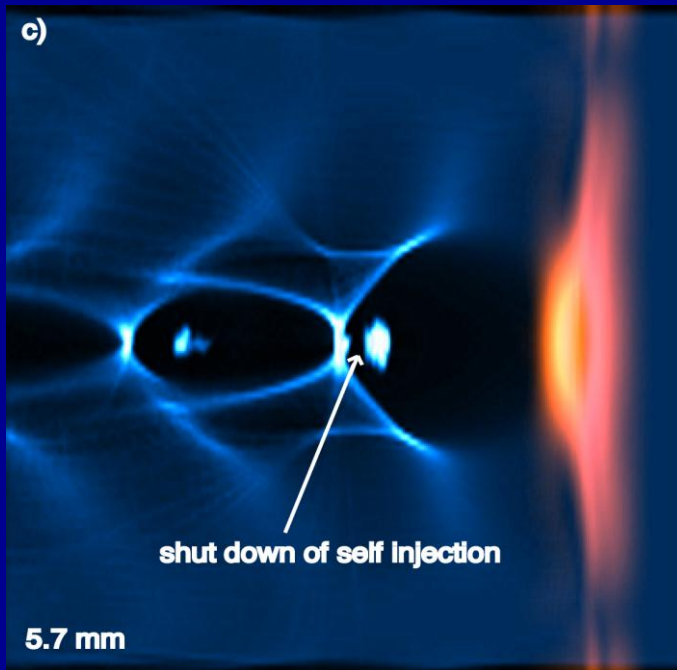
Charge in the peak : 200-300 pC



J. Faure et al. Nature (2004)

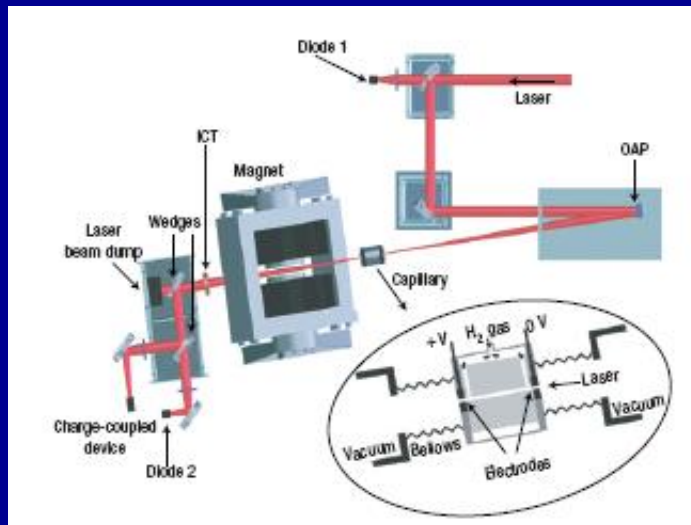
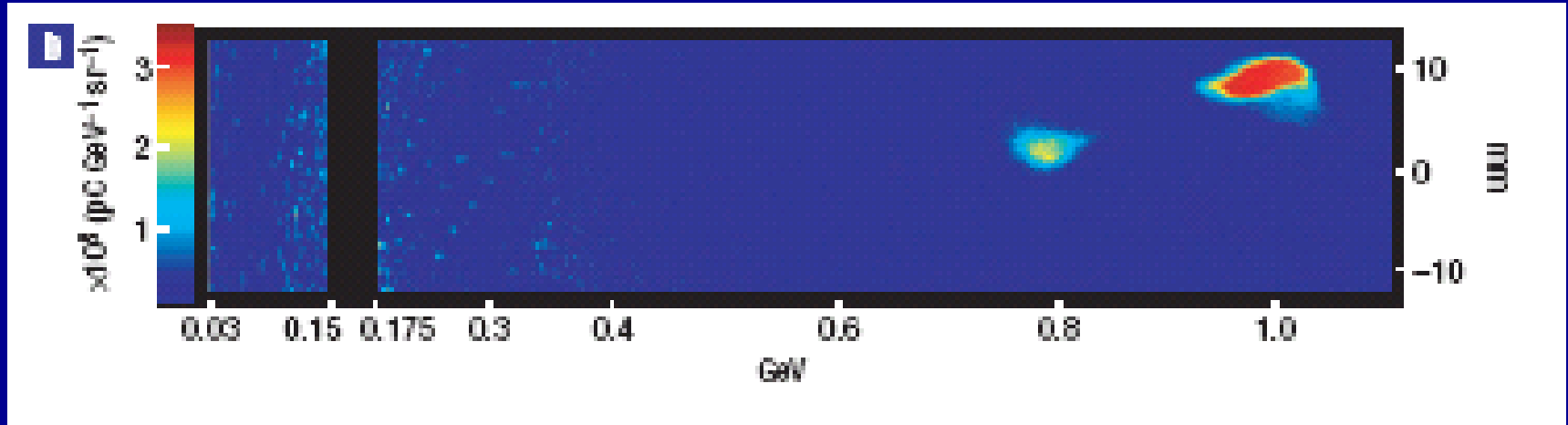
# Laser plasma injector : GeV electron beams

$$w_0 = 20 \mu m \quad \tau = 30 fs \quad P = 200 TW \quad \lambda = 0.8 \mu m \quad a_0 = 4 \quad n_p = 1.5 \times 10^{18} cm^{-3}$$



*Courtesy of UCLA & Golp groups*

# GeV electron beams from a « centimetre-scale » accelerator



310- $\mu\text{m}$ -diameter  
channel capillary

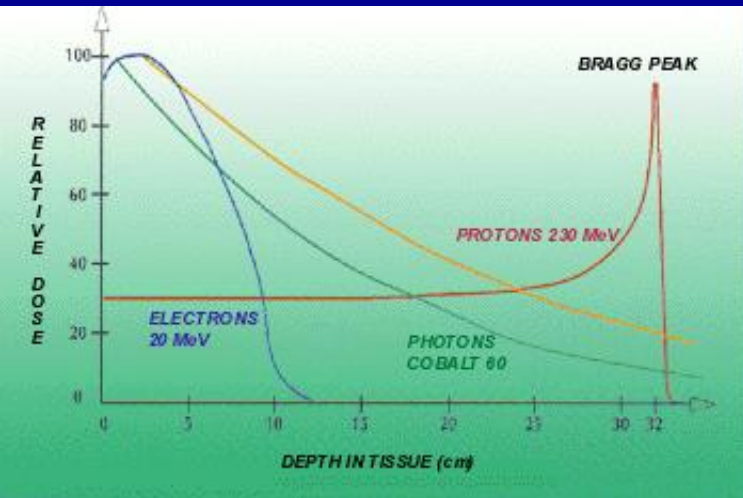
$P = 40 \text{ TW}$

density  $4.3 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

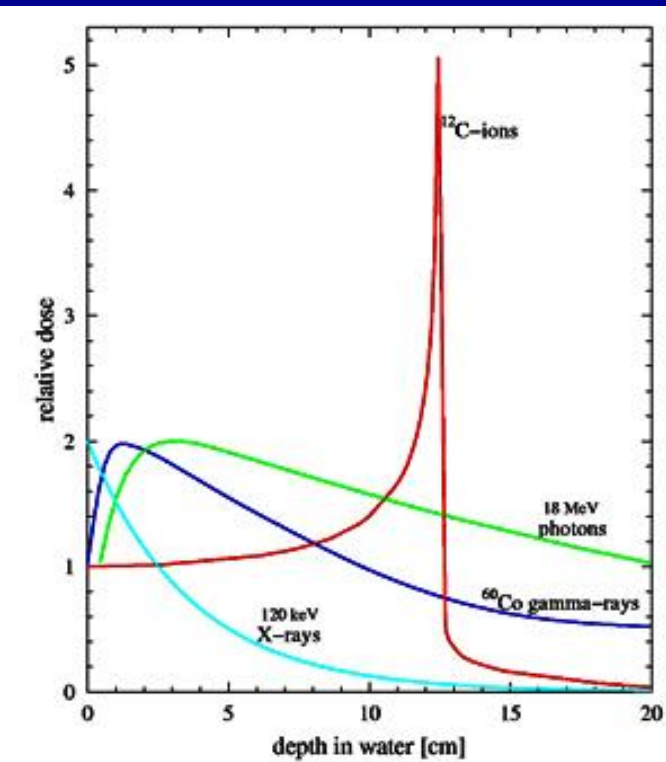
*Leemans et al., Nature Physics, september 2006*

*ACCELERATORS FOR  
HADRONTHERAPY*

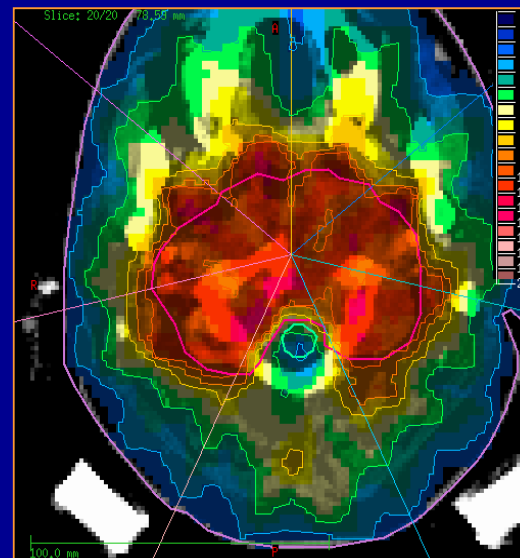
# Why hadrontherapy ?



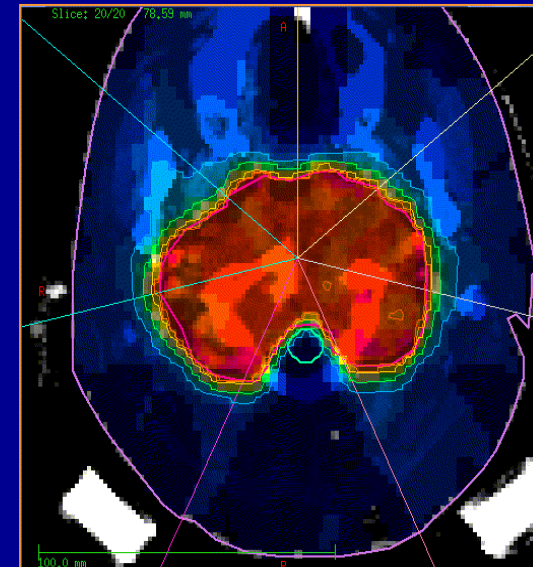
Protons deposit energy at end of motion and do not harm surrounding cells



X-rays



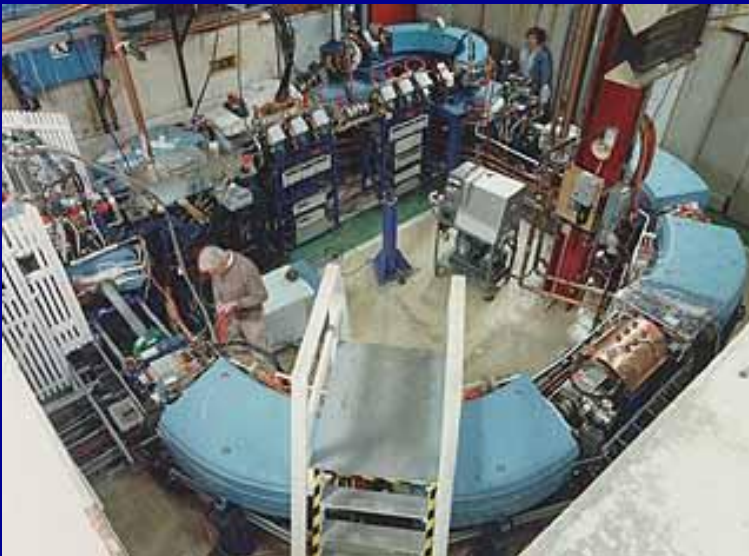
Protons



# Typical hospital proton accelerators

Protontherapy accelerators are extremely big and expensive

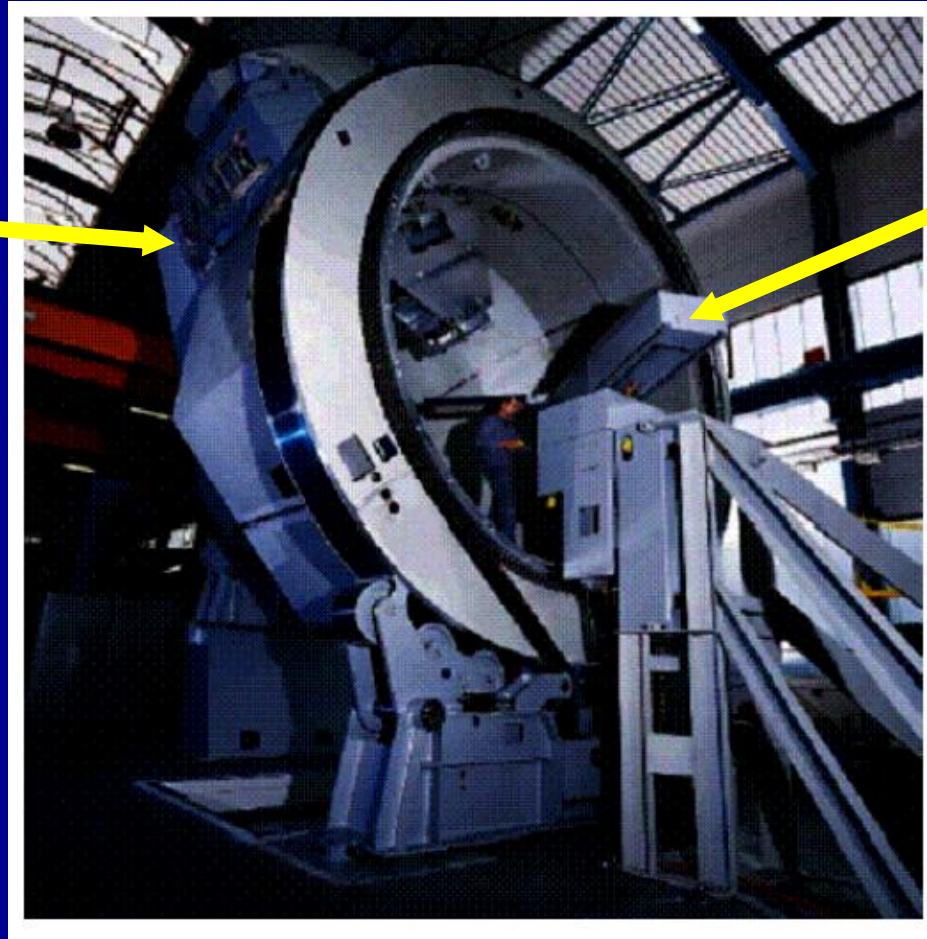
- Synchrotron (Loma Linda) :
  - max p energy : 250 MeV
  - period : 2.2 s
  - size : 12 m
- Cyclotron (IBA-NPTC) :
  - max p energy : 250 MeV
  - pulse rate : CW
  - power: 400 KW
  - size : 4 m (diameter)
  - weight : 220 tons





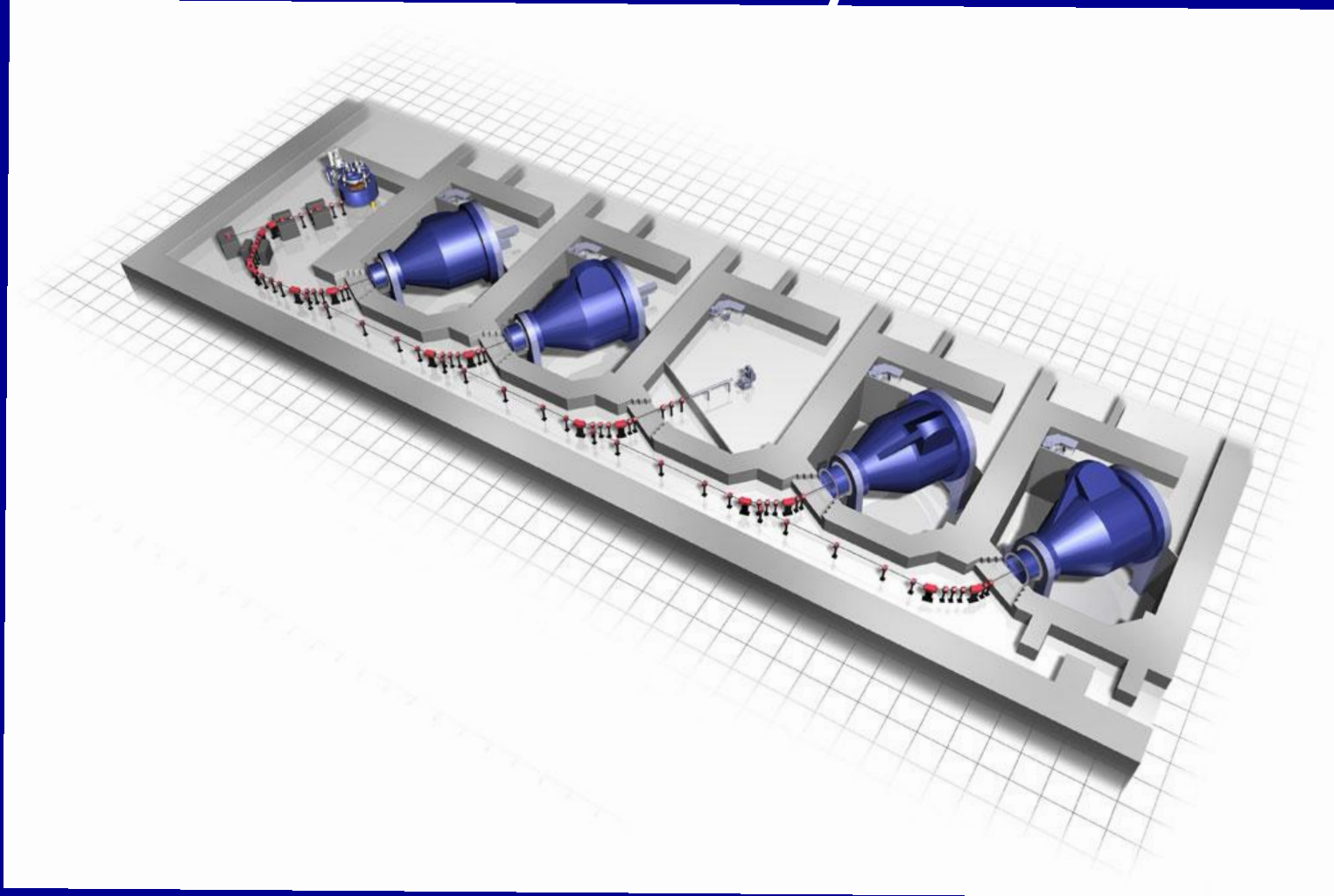
# By complex gantry systems

Gantry system



Human

...require therefore a lot of space  
and money...



**Construction costs: about 100 M€**  
**Treatment cost (brain tumor): about 40 k€**

# ...and are therefore rare...

Today: worldwide exist only 40 therapycenter

North America = 5 + 8

Europe = 7 + 5 + 1 carbon

Asia = 8 + 3 + 2 carbon

What technology for the future ?

Southern Hemisphere = 1

Scale 1:100,000,000  
Reference Projection:  
Standard parallels 30° N and 30° S

January 2000

Boundary representation is  
not necessarily authoritative.  
BORDERS (2000) 12-01



# Year 2000: discovery of laser-generated protons

High quality and high energy protons are accelerated by high intensity lasers...

Proton beams:  
- High number  
- High energy  
- Very laminar  
- Short duration

VOLUME 85, NUMBER 14 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 2 OCTOBER 2000

## Intense High-Energy Proton Beams from Petawatt-Laser Irradiation of Solids

R. A. Sauerbrey,<sup>1,2</sup> M. H. Key,<sup>1</sup> S. P. Hatchett,<sup>1</sup> T. E. Cowan,<sup>1</sup> M. Roth,<sup>2,3</sup> T. W. Phillips,<sup>1</sup> M. A. Sorey,<sup>1</sup> E. A. Hare,<sup>1</sup> T. C. Sangster,<sup>1</sup> M. S. Singh,<sup>1</sup> S. C. Wilks,<sup>1</sup> A. McKinnon,<sup>1</sup> A. G. Oliver,<sup>1,2,3</sup> J. M. Venzke,<sup>1</sup> K. Tanaka,<sup>1,2</sup> A. B. Langdon,<sup>1</sup> B. F. Lasinski,<sup>1</sup> J. Johnson,<sup>3</sup> M. D. Perry,<sup>1</sup> and E. M. Campbell<sup>1</sup>

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VOLUME 85, NUMBER 8 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 21 AUGUST 2000

## Energetic Heavy-Ion and Proton Generation from Ultraintense Laser-Plasma Interactions with Solids

E. L. Clark,<sup>1,2</sup> K. Krushelnick,<sup>1</sup> M. Zepf,<sup>1</sup> F. N. Beg,<sup>1</sup> M. Tatarakis,<sup>1</sup> A. Machacek,<sup>1</sup> M. J. S. Smith,<sup>1</sup> P. A. Norreys,<sup>2</sup> and A. E. Dangor<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London SW7 2BZ, United Kingdom

<sup>2</sup>Rutherford Physics Department, AWE, Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PW, United Kingdom

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<sup>4</sup>Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Oxon, OX1 0QJ, United Kingdom

(Received 9 November 1999)

Heavy ions with energies up to  $430 \pm 40$  MeV at focused intensities of up to  $5 \times 10^{17}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> and proton beams with energies up to  $100$  MeV were produced in a laser-plasma interaction. The ions were produced by a combination of Coulomb explosion and ionization of the target material. The protons were produced by ionization of the target material.

Recent ultraintense laser-plasma interaction experiments have produced observations of many interesting new phenomena—such as the acceleration of electrons to energies of up to 100 MeV [1], the production of intense, directional proton beams [2], and the generation of multi-megagauss magnetic fields [3]. Such developments may one day allow construction of compact tabletop particle accelerators with applications for high-energy physics and medicine. This work has been made possible by the implementation of charged-pulse amplification (CPA) technology in modern laser facilities, which can currently achieve focused intensities approaching  $10^{17}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>. Under these conditions, intense electron beams can be produced [4]—which may be useful for generating compressed deuterium-tritium capsules in inertial confinement fusion experiments [5]. The physical mechanisms which produce these high-energy electrons are also important for understanding the generation of very energetic ions observed during laser interactions with dense plasmas [2,6,7]. The first measurements of energetic ion emission were made during early experiments [8] using CO<sub>2</sub> lasers and those results [9,10] indicated that ions with energies greater than 1 MeV could be produced. Ions with energies produced from intense laser-plasma interactions may also prove to be useful in a variety of the “fast-ion” regime [11].

Our report a laser-induced proton beam with energies up to 58 MeV [11] about 2.5 higher than is given by scaling law [7] to the 30% higher laser intensity. A distinctive feature is emission in two perpendicular to the laser-irradiated target. Similar near-surface beams  $<1$  MeV was reported in nanosecond pulses [12]. Our observed high up access to nuclear processes. The experiments used a CPA laser pulse of 500 fs duration (5 femtosecond, the peak intensity

was produced from the interaction of ultraintense laser pulses with solid-density materials. Energy spectra of heavy ions and protons were recorded with high spatial and spectral resolution from the front of the target and the back of the target which can be linked to ion acceleration mechanisms in the plasma. We report here the highest-energy ions observed from a laser-produced plasma with measurements of  $10^{17}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> ions up to  $430 \pm 40$  MeV as well as protons with energies up to 30 MeV. Two components

1654 0031-9077/00/8508-1654\$10.00

VOLUME 84, NUMBER 16 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 13 MAY 2000

## Forward Ion Acceleration in Thin Films Driven by a High-Intensity Laser

A. Silitonnikov,<sup>1</sup> S. A. K. Pappas,<sup>1</sup> and V. Litvak<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London SW7 2BZ, United Kingdom

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<sup>3</sup>Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Oxon, OX1 0QJ, United Kingdom

(Received 9 November 1999)

Recent experiments have shown that intense laser-plasma interactions can produce high-energy ion beams. In this paper, we report on the acceleration of ions in thin films driven by a high-intensity laser. The ions are accelerated in the forward direction, and the acceleration is enhanced by the presence of a magnetic field.

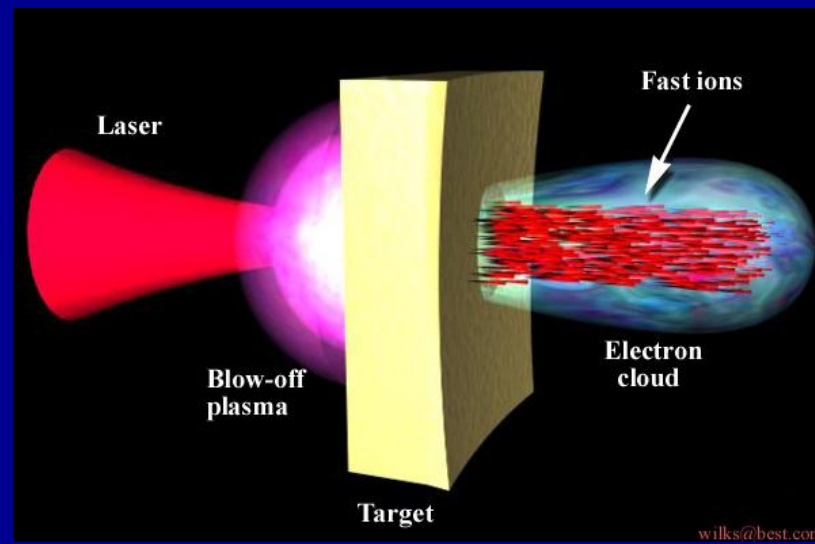
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was produced from the interaction of ultraintense laser pulses with solid-density materials. Energy spectra of heavy ions and protons were recorded with high spatial and spectral resolution from the front of the target and the back of the target which can be linked to ion acceleration mechanisms in the plasma. We report here the highest-energy ions observed from a laser-produced plasma with measurements of  $10^{17}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> ions up to  $430 \pm 40$  MeV as well as protons with energies up to 30 MeV. Two components

4038 0031-9077/00/8416-4038\$10.00

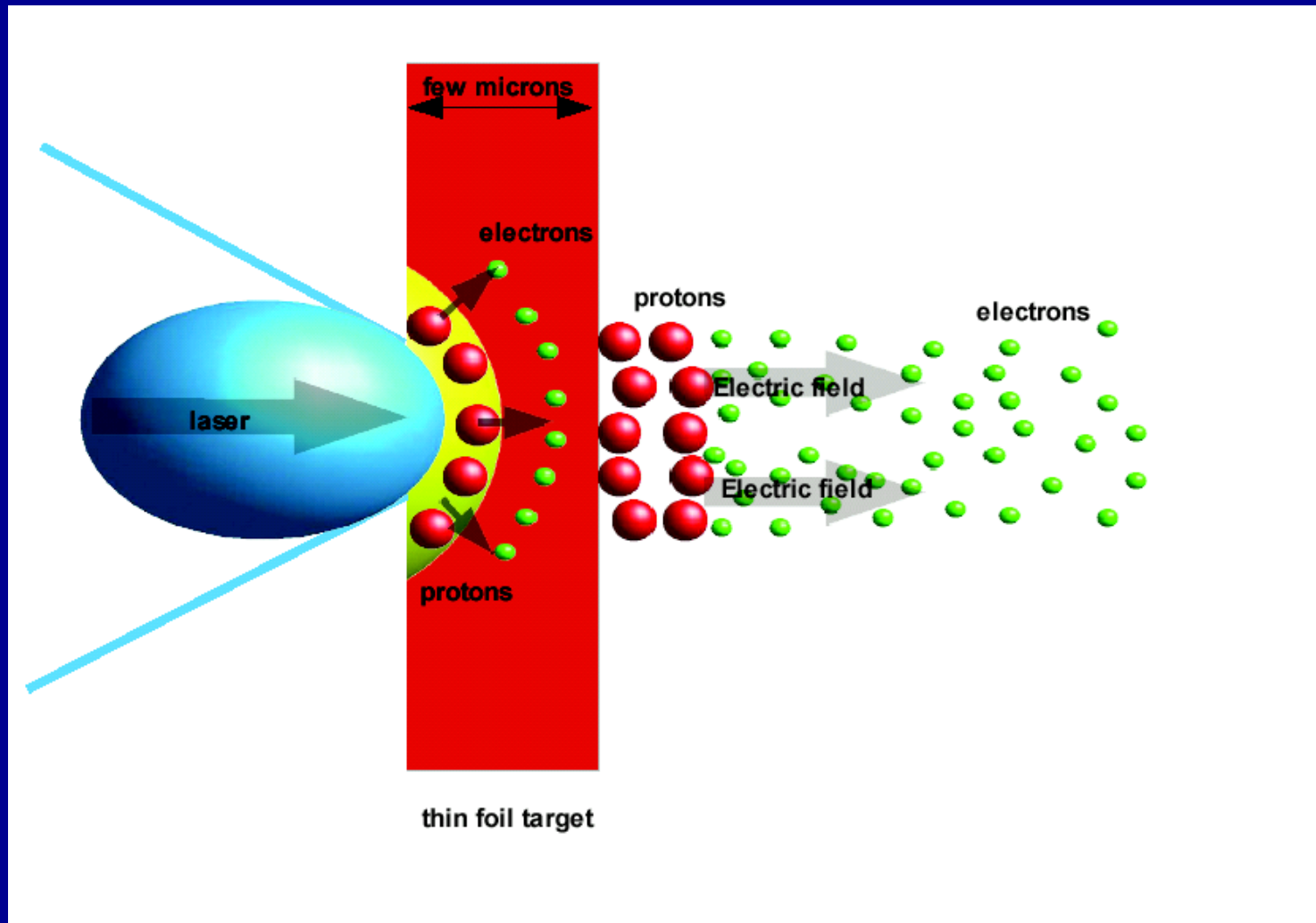
© 2000 The American Physical Society



wilks@best.com

[Clark 2000, Krushelnick 2000, Maksimchuk 2000, Snavely 2000]

# Proton generation mechanism

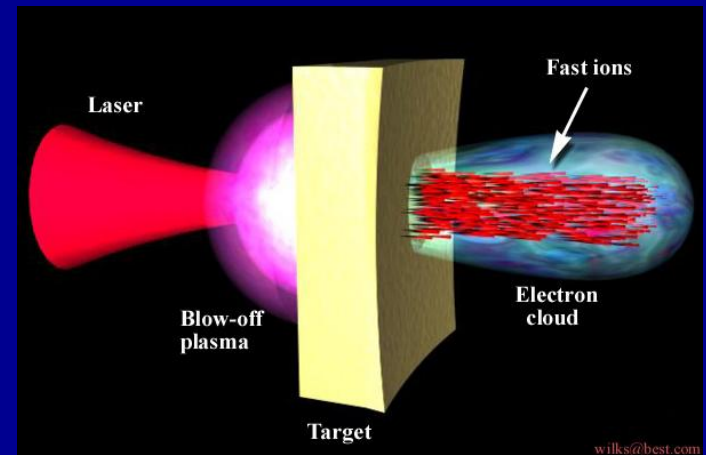




# Since then, intensive studies on proton acceleration

**Laser-acceleration 7000 more compact !!!**

Acceleration takes place  
in less than 1 mm



Acceleration takes place  
in less than 7 m



# 2006: Research study laser-generated protons for protontherapy

nature  
physics

„Towards compact protontherapy ?“

„...requires very intense laser beams...“

## ARTICLES

### Laser-driven proton scaling laws and new paths towards energy increase

J. FUCHS<sup>1,2\*</sup>, P. ANTICI<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, E. D'HUMIERES<sup>5</sup>, E. LEFEBVRE<sup>6</sup>, M. BORGHESI<sup>7</sup>, E. BRAMBRINK<sup>8</sup>, C. A. CECCHETTI<sup>9</sup>, M. KALUZA<sup>10</sup>, V. MALKA<sup>11</sup>, M. MANCLOSSI<sup>12</sup>, S. MEYERNEIN<sup>13</sup>, P. MORAT<sup>14</sup>, J. SCHREIBER<sup>15</sup>, T. TONCIAN<sup>16</sup>, H. PEPIN<sup>17</sup> AND P. AUDEBERT<sup>1</sup>

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Published online: 25 October 2006, doi:10.1038/nphys109

The past few years have seen remarkable progress in the development of laser-based particle accelerators. The ability to produce ultrabright beams of multi-megaelectronvolt protons routinely has many potential uses from engineering to medicine, but for this potential to be realized substantial improvements in the performances of these devices must be made. Here we show that in the laser-driven accelerator that has been demonstrated experimentally to produce the highest energy protons, scaling laws derived from fluid models and supported by numerical simulations can be used to accurately describe the acceleration of proton beams for a large range of laser and target parameters. This enables us to evaluate the laser parameters needed to produce high-energy and high-quality proton beams of interest for radiography of dense objects or proton therapy of deep-seated tumours.

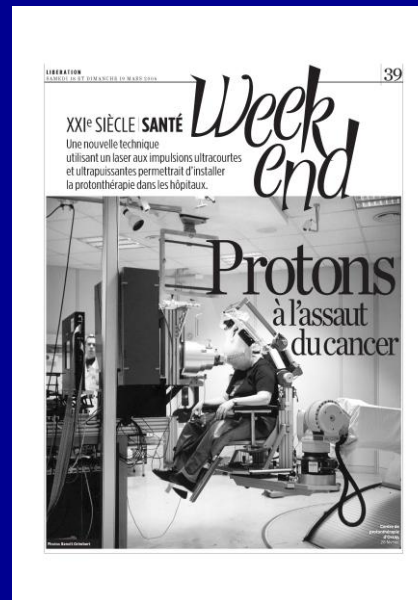
**E**nergetic proton beams with high beam quality have been produced in the last few years from thin aerogel foils (usually aluminium) irradiated by ultraintense short laser pulses<sup>1,2</sup>. Protons accelerated from solids originate primarily from constraining layers of water vapour and hydrocarbons on the target surface<sup>3</sup>. These proton beams are extremely laminar<sup>4</sup>, collimated ( $\sim 15^\circ$  half-angle) with a divergence decreasing with the beam energy) with a smooth angular distribution<sup>5</sup> and have a duration at the source of the order of a picosecond. Owing to these qualities, these beams are already being considered or applied in high-resolution charged-particle radiography<sup>6,7</sup>, or for the production of high-energy, density matter of interest for astrophysics<sup>8</sup>; they could also lead to high-brightness injectors for accelerators<sup>9</sup> or sources for proton therapy<sup>10,11</sup> or radioisotope production<sup>12</sup>. However, these present-day sources are not yet optimized for the intended applications. The determination of the scaling laws discussed here is a necessary step to achieve this optimization. Several scaling studies have already been carried out on different facilities (from small table-top lasers to single-pulse large laser facilities)<sup>13–17</sup>. However, as they cannot be fully compared owing to the different sets of parameters used, no clear picture has yet emerged of the relative importance of the various target (thickness) and laser parameters (pulse energy, pulse duration, peak intensity and focal spot size).

Here we present the results of a series of experiments on aluminium foils, measuring the proton-beam maximum energy

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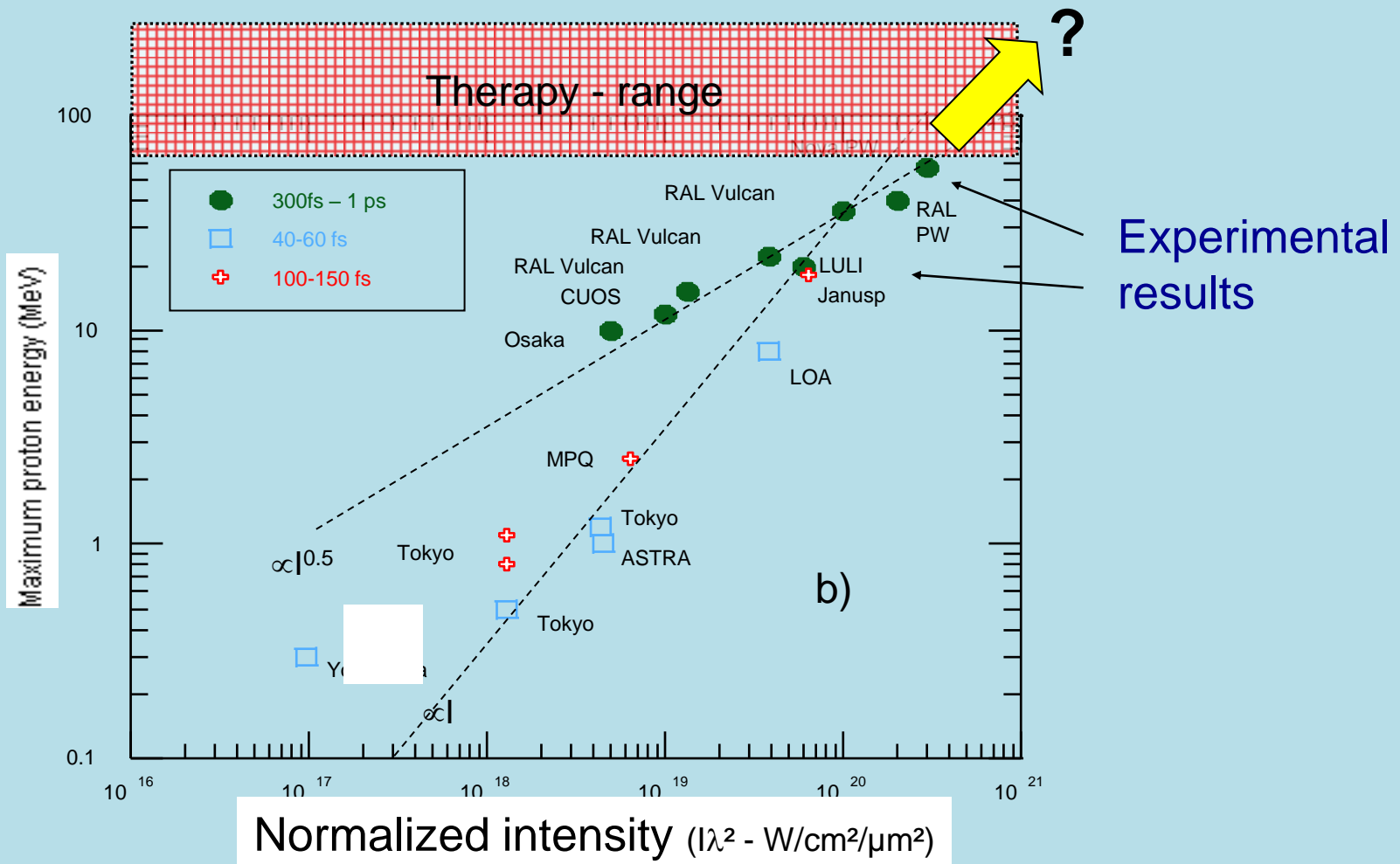
577



J. Fuchs, P. Antici et al., Nature Phys 2006  
P. Antici PhD thesis @ U. „Sapienza“

# Projected energy

Tendency shows that intense laser can reach energies for protontherapy



# What is ELI (Extreme Light Infrastructure) ?



EU Project started 2007  
gathering almost all laser  
facilities in Europe and  
designing the most powerful  
laser.

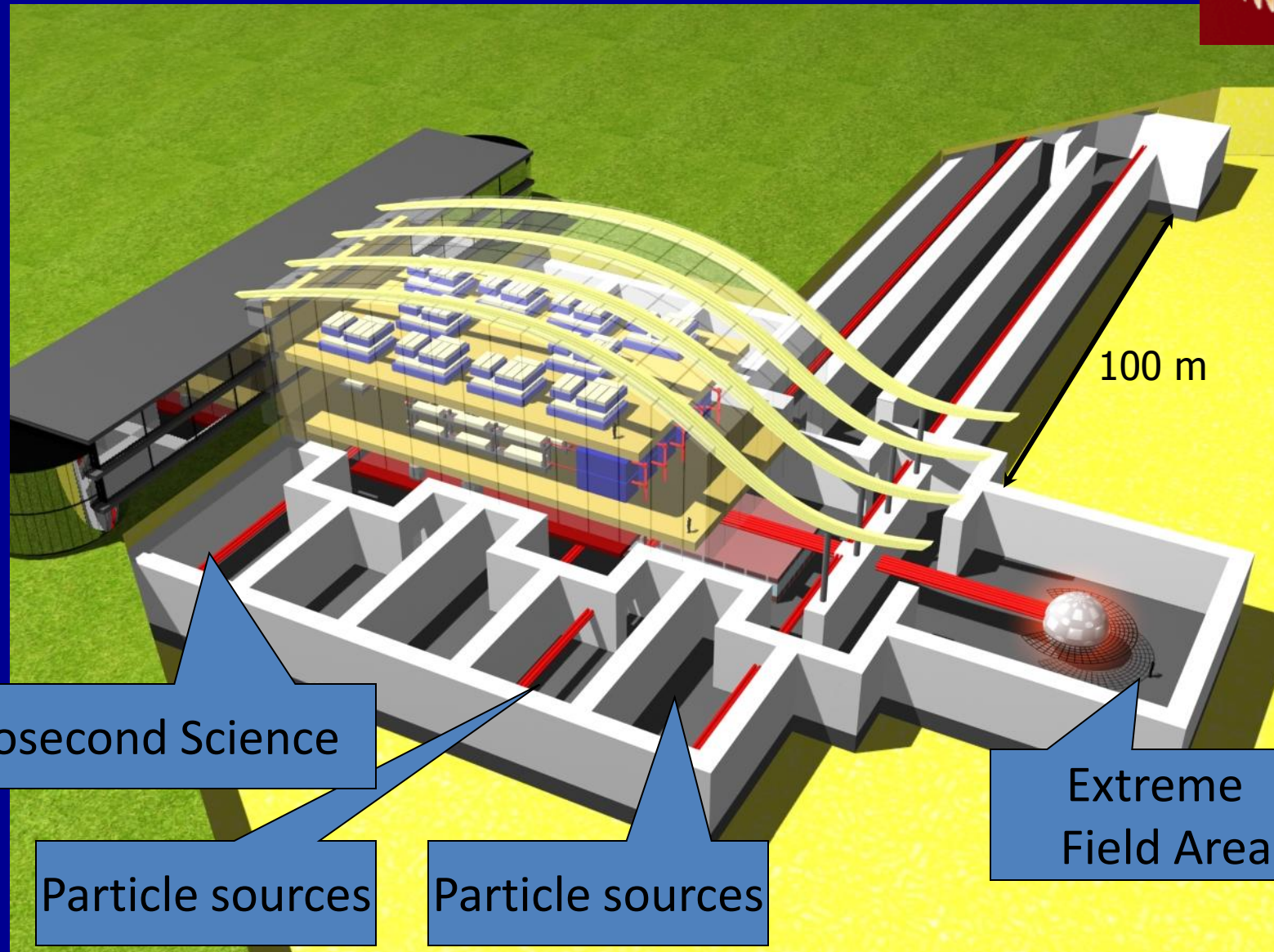
## Distributed laser facility with three pillars:

- 1) Czech republic (applications)
- 2) Hungary (attosecond science)
- 3) Romania (nuclear physics)

# Committment: 760 M€



# The Extreme Light Infrastructure exploded view



Attosecond Science

Particle sources

Particle sources

Extreme  
Field Area

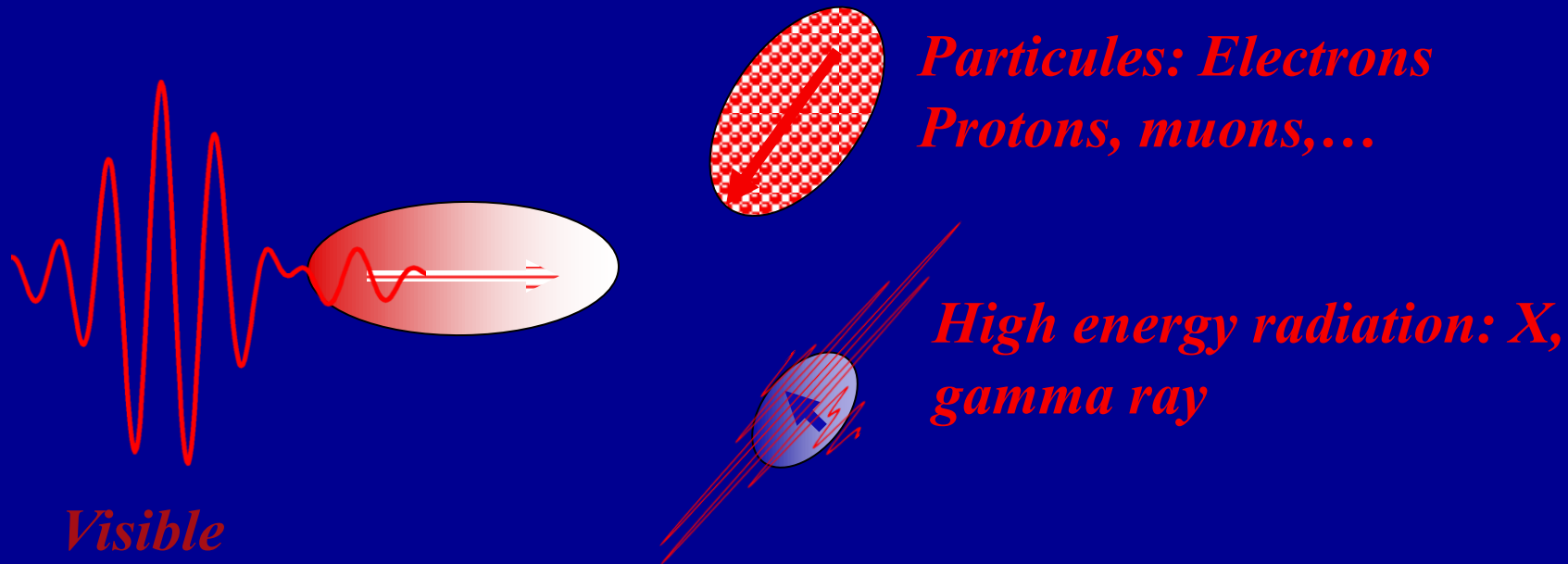


# ELI: A Unique Infrastructure that offers simultaneously

- Ultra high Intensity  $\sim 10^{26} \text{W/cm}^2$
- High Energy particles  $> 100 \text{GeV}$
- High Flux of X and  $\gamma$  rays
- With femtosecond time structures
- Highly synchronized

(We could possibly get beams equivalent to  $10^{36} \text{W/cm}^2$ )

ELI will be Unique: it will provide  
Photons and Particles with Short and  
Synchronized Time Structure in the  
femtosecond attosecond regime

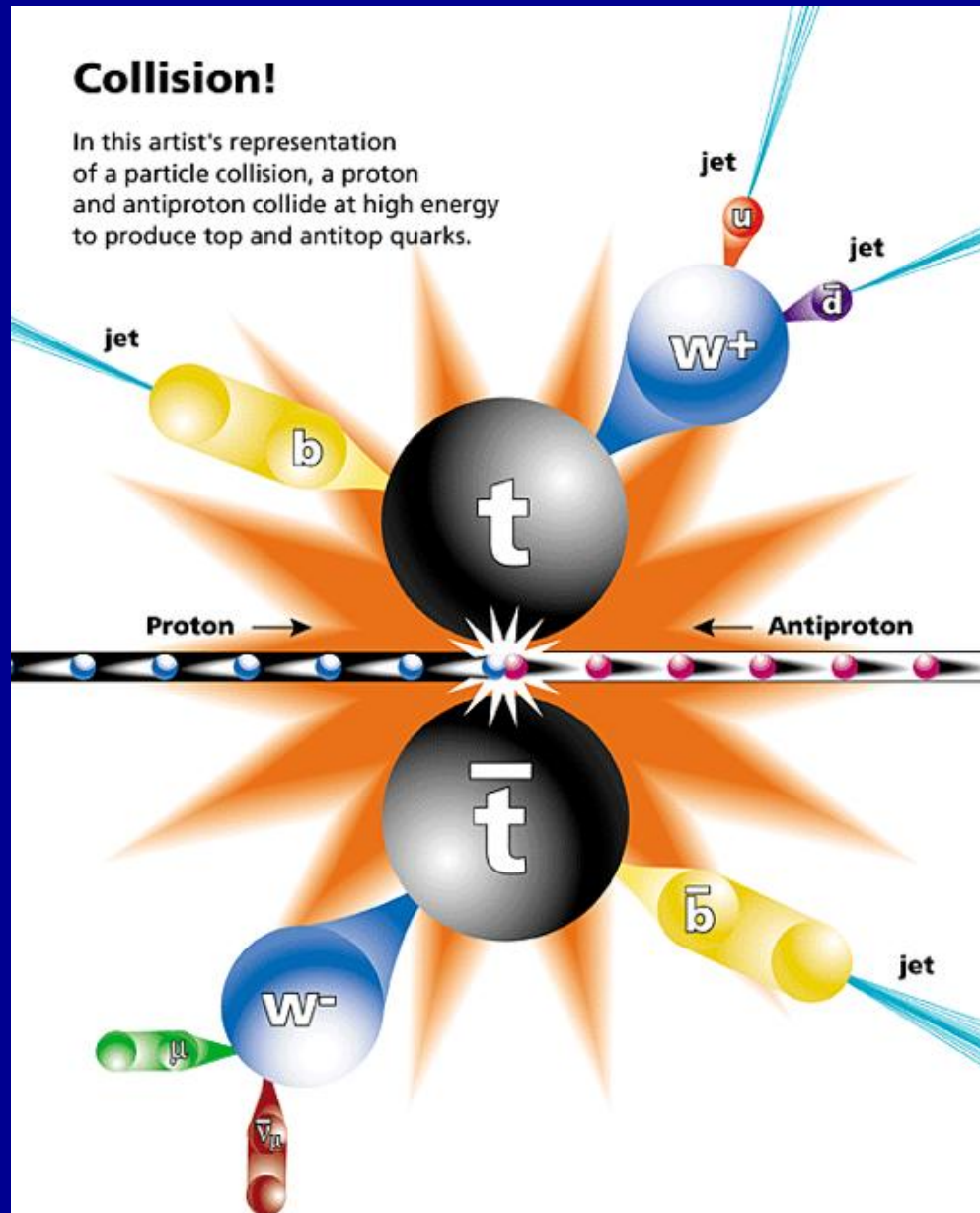


*With ELI we may witness a  
Paradigm shift in Fundamental  
Physics.*

*Could one day Lasers Replace  
Accelerators?*

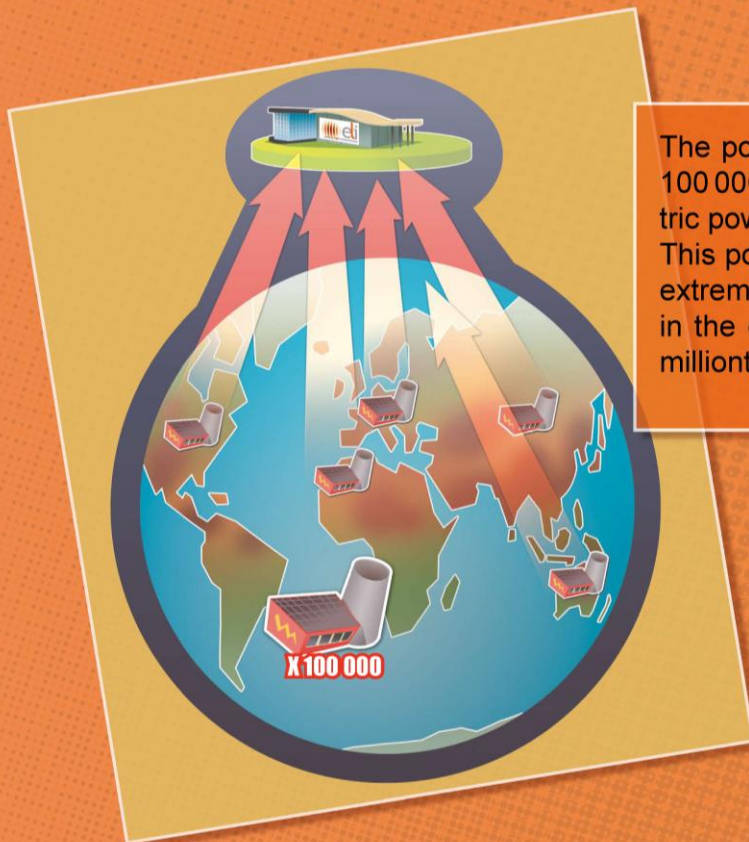
## Collision!

In this artist's representation of a particle collision, a proton and antiproton collide at high energy to produce top and antitop quarks.



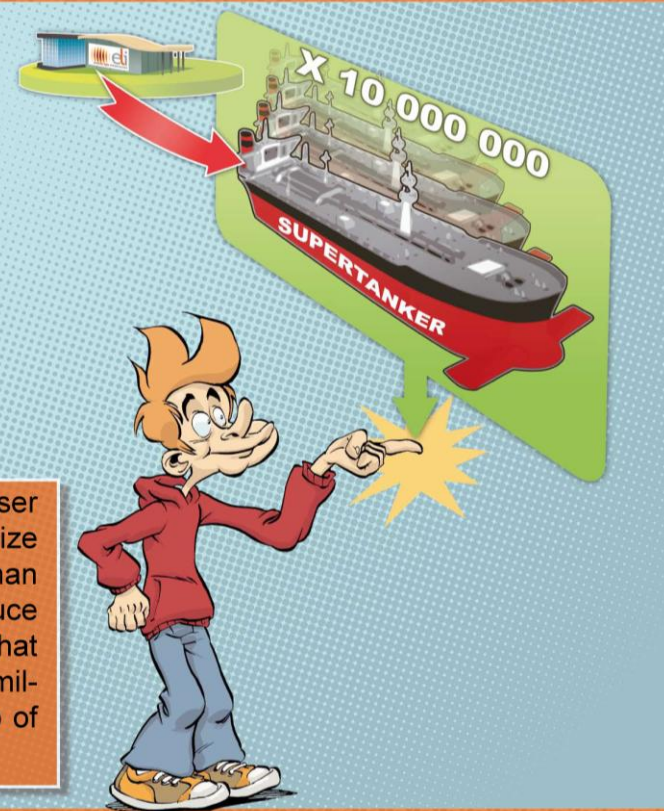
# How intense will ELI be ?

ELI is supposed to deliver 200 PW,  
with intermediate facilities of 20 PW



The power of ELI will be equal to 100 000 times the power of all electric power plants in the world. This power will be produced in an extremely short period of time, i.e. in the order of a thousandth of a millionth of a millionth of a second.

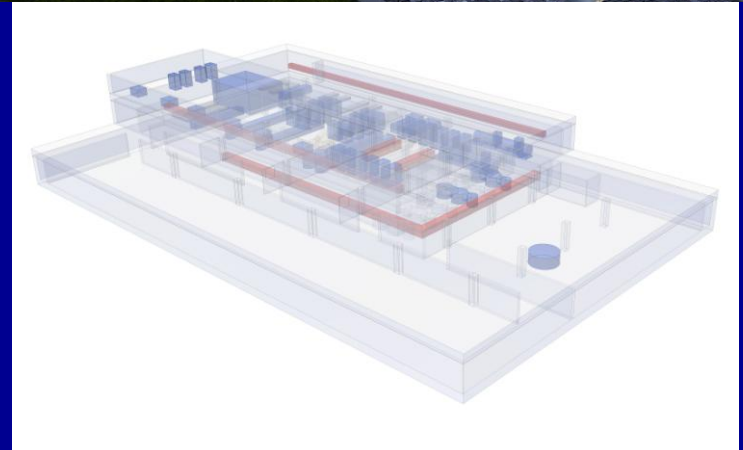
The ultra powerful ELI laser beam, focused on a spot size with dimension smaller than a hair, will be able to produce a pressure equivalent to that given by the weight of 10 millions supertankers on top of a finger tip.





# Protontherapy should be studied by the Czech pillar (Prague)

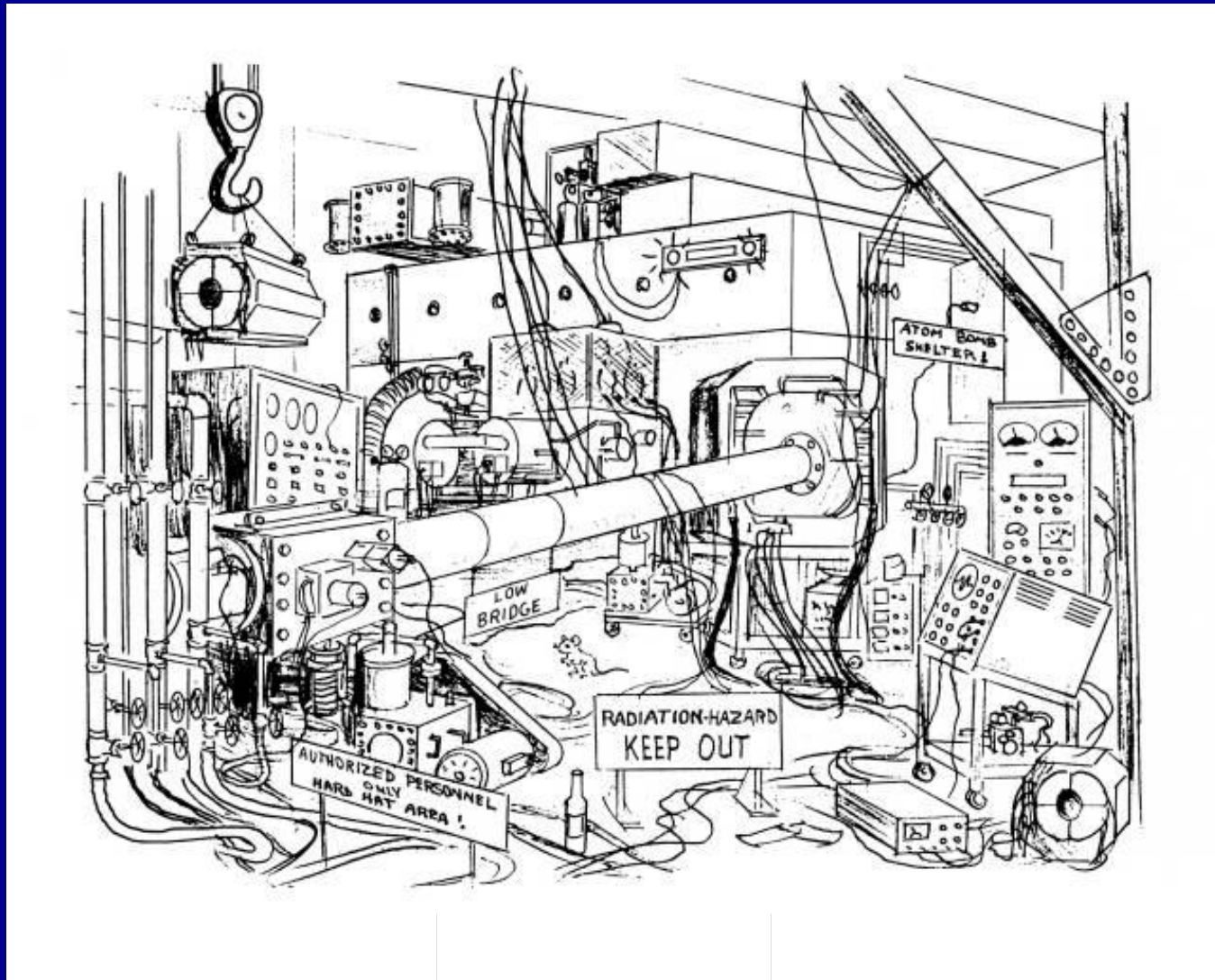
ELI-CZ will have devoted  
beamlines for protontherapy



*CHANCES TO BE FUNDED?*

*A GOOD COMMUNICATION STRATEGY  
IS ALSO NEEDED*

# ***MODIFY THE COMMON SENSE ABOUT ACCELERATORS !!!***





***EXPECIALLY WITH ...  
THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDING AGENCIES***

